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Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-194
Tuesday
10 October 1989

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-194 10 October 1989

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Inter-Arab Affairs

King Fahd Sends Messages of Support to Lebanon

LD0710230489 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1905 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Jeddah, 7 Oct (SPA)—A responsible source explained to SPA today that King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, out of his concern for the interests of Lebanon and the good of the Lebanese and in confirmation of his welcome of the Lebanese who have chosen the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a place for their meetings, has sent two messages to Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and General Michel 'Awn in which he expressed the hope of adopting a unified stand in order to achieve the desired solutions in accordance with the vision approved by the Casablanca summit resolutions, from the premise of the resolutions announced by the higher Arab tripartite committee entrusted by the summit with exerting intensive continuous efforts to deal with the Lebanese crisis, in cooperation with all the Lebanese parties and sides concerned with the Lebanese issue.

The source added: "The custodian of the two holy mosques confirmed in the two letters the concern of the Arab tripartite committee for the supreme interest of Lebanon to be the loftiest objective of the al-Ta'if meetings, in preservation of the unity of Lebanon, people and land, and enabling it to recover its security and stability."

King Fahd Interviewed on Lebanon Settlement

PM0910150589 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 2 Oct 89 p 5

[Interview with King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia by Hashim 'Abduh Hashim; date, place not given]

[Text] [Hashim] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, now that the Lebanese parliamentarians have begun meetings in the Kingdom to lay practical foundations for Lebanon's security, stability, and full sovereignty, what do you, may God keep you safe, expect from the meeting?

[King Fahd] Before talking about our expectations we wish to express to the Lebanese brothers, of all factions, the higher tripartite committee's profound appreciation of their confidence in its efforts. We appreciate the response of all to every good effort we have made and are making in the interest of Lebanon.

There can be no doubt that all the tangible signs and indications so far denote a sincere, true, and certain desire on all sides to deliver Lebanon from its present painful predicament. We beseech God to grant them success in ending the tragic situation through their known wisdom, vision, and devotion to the precious homeland.

[Hashim] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, how was the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia chosen as the venue for the Lebanese parliamentary meeting in these critical circumstances?

[King Fahd] Everyone knows that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was one of the three Arab states entrusted by the recent Casablanca Arab summit conference with urgently seeking a radical, practical, and comprehensive solution to the problem. It was in that context that intensive continuous consultations were held between me and my brother His Majesty King Hassan II of the fraternal Kingdom of Morocco and my brother His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria. These contacts never stop and the aim is to promote the best possible conditions for a settlement.

Everyone was of the opinion that the Kingdom was the appropriate place for the meeting of the parliamentarians. All concerned parties agreed to that. We are happy with everyone's trust and we are prepared to provide all the help they need at any stage of the serious work in search of a final settlement of the crisis.

[Hashim] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, do you believe that the current circumstances encourage one to expect positive results from this meeting?

[King Fahd] We believe that all the steps taken so far are reassuring and call for optimism not only about good results from this meeting but also about an end to the entire crisis.

Now the parliamentarians are meeting in the third step in the continuous efforts, after the cease-fire and formation of the joint security committee. That in itself is an achievement appreciated by the tripartite committee, the Arab nation, and the whole world. The Lebanese brothers have demonstrated considerable responsiveness, understanding, and cooperation to achieve what has been achieved so far.

Today everyone views the meeting of the parliamentarians with the same degree of optimism because it means that there is a pure Lebanese will to put an end to the bloody tragedy and to begin to look for practical steps to ensure Lebanon's security, unity, stability, and independence.

[Hashim] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, will the tripartite committee participate directly in the meeting?

[King Fahd] This is a meeting of Lebanese parliamentarians to discuss matters related to Lebanon's future and reforms and measures necessary to complete Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. It is up to them, not to others, to decide what they want. They could, if they wish, seek or request participation of other parties or they could decide not to seek such participation. That is up to them and their concept of the work necessary in the context of the set purpose of the meeting.

[Hashim] Could it be said, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, that the tripartite committee would not intervene in the event of disagreement on matters of detail at any stage in the work for a settlement?

[King Fahd] First, let us correct a misconception about the mission entrusted to the higher tripartite committee. That misconception is that the committee has the power to impose and dictate to the various parties. That is definitely not the case and it is untrue. When the tripartite committee was formed with the approval and confidence of all the Arab states, it realized that its mission was one of reconciliation, that it would endeavor to find solutions, outlets, and practical formulas to overcome the conflicting positions, and that it would with greater vision try to bring the conflicting views closer together, plug the gaps, promote channels of cooperation, build trust, and find common ground to facilitate positive and constructive work in Lebanon's interest.

Second, the committee has not aligned itself with any party and, in all its contacts, moves, and concepts, has not exerted any pressure on any party, group, or side inside or outside Lebanon. It has always been an honest and even-handed mediator seeking justice and a response in the higher interests of this nation.

Third, the committee, which has the confidence of all, knew that the mission was difficult, but it was certain that the mission was not impossible because it realized that the Lebanese brothers were highly responsible and sincerely wanted constructive work. The differences that emerged at one stage and necessitated a brief suspension of efforts were normal and it was necessary to give all parties ample time to contemplate and consider the circumstances, developments, and changes. So as soon as the the local, regional, and international circumstances were ripe, the committee did not hesitate to resume its efforts and shoulder its historic responsibility so that Lebanon can remain free, honorable, and strong.

We are very happy today that efforts are being resumed under encouraging circumstances confirming that Lebanon is now on the right track, particularly as its people are intelligent, ambitious, honest, and, God willing, capable of dressing their country's wounds and restoring its health in record time. They are exemplary and determined people with vision.

[Hashim] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, how do you envisage the reconstruction of Lebanon once stability is restored?

[King Fahd] We believe that the reconstruction of Lebanon and helping Lebanon rise again constitute a great pan-Arab and human responsibility and duty. That is why the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will, God willing, be among the first states that will not hesitate to do its duty in this connection. In fact, we call on all the brothers in the Arab and Islamic worlds and the international community to shoulder their responsibilities in the reconstruction of Lebanon, in enabling the refugees to return to Lebanon, and in permitting the establishment of a strong state capable, with God's help, of meeting all the challenges.

There can be no doubt that Lebanon and its people deserve such aid and will cooperate to ensure Lebanon's awakening.

We are very optimistic that if all goes according to plan, and the picture so far is reassuring, Lebanon will be better than it ever was.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Leaves for GDR; May Meet Gorbachev

JN0610183589 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, left Beijing for Berlin today on a visit to the German Democratic Republic [GDR] as part of his current tour of some countries. During his visit, brother Yasir 'Arafat will hold talks with GDR President Erich Honecker and senior government officials on the Middle East situation and Palestinian developments. It is expected that during his visit to Berlin, brother Yasir 'Arafat will meet with USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, who will begin an official visit to the GDR today.

Salah Khalaf Notes PFLP-GC Link to UTA Crash

LD0710205389 Paris International Service in French 1950 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] There is a new element in the inquiry into the UTA Airlines' DC-10 disaster. In an interview in the French newspaper LE JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE, the PLO's number two, Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf], reveals that the French secret service has collaborated with the PLO in the inquiry into the attack. The PLO official also states that certain elements make it possible—and I am quoting him—to suspect the Iranians who are technically cooperating with Ahmad Jibril, the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

Salah Khalaf Vows Intifadah To Continue

AU0810145089 Paris AFP in English 2322 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Paris, Oct 7 (AFP)—A senior PLO official warned of greater violence inside the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the absence of a political solution to the Israeli-occupied territories, in statements published Sunday by LE JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE.

Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu-Iyad, said the failure to find a solution would mean an implosion of the 22-month-old anti-Israeli uprising, or intifadah, underway in the territories. "All the means" will be used, he said. Mr. Khalaf, member of the central committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's mainstream Fatah group, charged that Israel had sought to "kill the peace

process by proposing elections for the sake of elections" in the territories. He also dismissed Egypt's 10-point peace initiative for elections in the territories as "merely a list of 10 questions submitted by (Egyptian President Husni) Mubarak to Israeli leaders during talks."

"The press transformed these questions into a peace plan. But it is my opinion that there is no need to be hasty," added Mr. Khalaf.

Turning to the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue launched last December, Mr. Khalaf said the talks were deadlocked. "As long as the Americans support Israel unconditionally, I doubt that there will be any progress. But this doesn't mean that this dialogue has no positive aspects," he said.

Elsewhere, he said that half of his security-related tasks were to "stop Middle Eastern terrorist groups that have no links with the PLO from launching attacks."

"We have foiled dozens of attacks around the world," he told the newspaper.

Abu-Sharif, Salah Khalaf Cited on 10-Point Plan

JN0810060089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] In a first Palestinian reaction to the Israeli Government's rejection of President Husni Mubarak's 10-point plan, Yasir 'Arafat's special adviser Bassam Abu-Sharif condemned this rejection, stressing that Yitzhaq Shamir's government is an obstacle to peace. He said he hoped that President George Bush would act to convince Israel to withdraw from the Palestinian territories after it was made clear to him that the PLO had given all that could be given for the sake of making peace.

In a statement to a Paris newspaper published today, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf considered President Husni Mubarak's plan a list of 10 questions posed during his talks with the Israelis, but the news media turned it into a peace plan. Khalaf added that the matter relates to neither a plan nor an initiative.

Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf] said the Israelis sought to destroy the peace process by proposing formal elections in the occupied territories, stressing that the Palestinians in the occupied territories will reject meaningless elections. Salah Khalaf also said that violence in these territories will go beyond the framework of the intifadah if no political solution is reached. He added: All means will be used, but only in the occupied territories.

Abu-Sharif Calls for Talks With U.S. Envoy

LD0910073489 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's special adviser, Bassam Abu- Sharif, has called on the U.S. envoy, who is expected to visit Egypt and Israel, to come to Tunis for talks with the Palestinian leadership before his visits to both Cairo and Tel Aviv. Abu-Sharif expressed the view that the U.S. Administration should show an honest reaction toward the stances based on promoting peace in the Middle East.

Abu-Sharif on Israeli Rejection of Peace Plan

LD0810105789 London BBC in Arabic to Arab World 0600 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] A senior PLO official says the rejection by the Israeli cabinet on Friday of Egypt's peace plan for the occupied territories amounted to a rejection of all preliminary peace moves. Mr Bassam Abu-Sharif, senior adviser to PLO Chairman Mr Yasir 'Arafat, said in an interview with the BBC that it indicated the determination of Israeli Prime Minister Mr Yitzhaq Shamir not to give up occupied land. He added that it makes the United States responsible for taking positive and practical steps to resolve the situation in cooperation with the other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

'Abbas Interviewed on 10 Points, U.S. Stand

JN0510080489 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p 27

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas by Fathi al-Barqawi in Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Barqawi] There is much political concern on the Palestinian, Arab, and international scenes about the 10 points proposed by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. While most Palestinian leaders are saying they have not seen these points except through news media and that there have been no consultations with the Egyptians over these points, the Egyptian president says he informed Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat about them, and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid says there is Palestinian-Egyptian coordination on all proposals. What is the truth?

['Abbas] The problem does not lie with the Egyptian plan. The current proposal does not deal with the topics to be discussed in the Israeli-Palestinian meeting, but with the principle of the meeting itself and the parties to it.

This is the basic problem that the Israelis have not yet solved. The Israeli Government accepts dialogue with a Palestinian delegation without reference to which side [of the occupied territories] this delegation will be drawn. It is known that Israel has been refusing to enter into a dialogue with a delegation comprising Palestinians from inside and outside [the occupied territories]—which is the Palestinian option.

The view of the Israeli Government is vague, while the Labor Party, as announced by Yitzhaq Rabin, accepts the idea of a delegation from both inside and outside.

When the Israeli Government approves of this delegation, it will be possible to discuss the agenda of the

meeting. I here underline the word dialogue, not negotiations, because the latter will take place in the international conference.

Then, it will be all right for Israel to propose its project—Shamir's project—for the Egyptians to propose their paper, and for the Palestinians to propose their ideas which they believe reflect their position.

We and the Egyptians agree on all this—a delegation from inside and outside and that each party propose its position. We do not want to go into the details of the subsequent steps before we know the Israeli view regarding the principle of the dialogue. If Israel insists on keeping its position vague, then there will be no dialogue, and, consequently, there will be nothing for us to agree or disagree about.

[Al-Barqawi] Can I take what you have just said as an explanation of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly's statement few days ago that the PLO is seriously studying Shamir's plan, which indicates—according to Kelly's analysis—a response to the Israeli plan?

['Abbas] No. Studying the Israeli plan does not mean responding favorably to it. It is the duty of the Palestinian leadership to study and read all new developments concerning our question and to give its opinion. But this does not mean we accept them.

[Al-Barqawi] Political leaders usually prepare several scenarios for any issue. Since there is full coordination between Egypt and the PLO, then there must have been some scenarios prepared jointly by the two sides. Some say that there will be subsequent details about the Egyptian plan, including the formation of a delegation comprising deportees and Americans of Palestinian origin. One of the scenarios, it is said, may even go as far as accepting autonomy temporarily.

['Abbas] We have not discussed the autonomy issue with the Egyptians. The Egyptians' chief concern is to bring the two sides to the negotiating table for talks. As President Mubarak says, when the two sides sit together, they must touch on some common things, and even if they disagree, they will return to the table and will definitely reach agreement on some points of discussion.

[Al-Barqawi] Since the Labor Party accepts a delegation formed of deportees, does the PLO view them as being from outside the occupied territories?

['Abbas] We view every Palestinian outside as being affiliated to the PLO, whether they are deported from their homeland or not. Some of the Palestinians who hold U.S. passports are members of the Palestine National Council. They are Palestinians because there is no Palestinian passport as yet.

[Al-Barqawi] Are there any specific names in mind?

['Abbas] When Shamir agrees to the principle, then we shall find the names we want. There is no difficulty in specifying names, whether from inside or outside the occupied territories. We are concerned in having the representation encompass all the Palestinian people's strata. As for the outside, any person we choose will be representing the PLO.

[Al-Barqawi] The Egyptian plan, or let us call it the Egyptian questions—the name is not important—found no positive response in the occupied territories. We noticed this from the many statements by a large number of Palestinian nationalist figures in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Has the PLO studied these reactions?

['Abbas] Our brothers in the occupied territories may have a certain view or stand on the Egyptian questions but when we place them within their proper context, that of their being mere questions, we then should expect actions and reactions. They are only questions Egypt has put forth to Israel which the latter rejected. One should not give them more importance than they deserve.

[Al-Barqawi] Does this mean that the concept on these questions differs in and outside the occupied territories?

['Abbas] There are no two different concepts. However, there are differences of interpretation in the Palestinian arena, even within the PLO Executive Committee, and within the same Palestinian factions. So far, the PLO has not proclaimed its official stand because we are not in a hurry and because Israel had already announced its rejection.

[Al-Barqawi] Our meeting is one of frankness. Therefore, let us proceed to in-depth discussions. We noticed that the recent call issued by the Unified Leadership of the Intifadah contained an attack on Egypt's 10 points while the official Palestinian media organs did not mention this attack. Is there an explanation for this?

['Abbas] We are supposed to take into consideration our relations with Egypt and not to harm these relations. Therefore, if there is any attack against Egypt from the occupied territories, it is not acceptable to adopt it through the official Palestinian media organs. If a Palestinian official, including myself, makes a statement against Egypt, the official Palestinian media organs will not be permitted to report this statement. [passage omited]

[Al-Barqawi] There has been much talk about Yasir 'Arafat's visit to the United Nations. Some say he has applied for a visa. Others say the United States has promised to grant him a visa. Is there a pressing need for such a visit?

['Abbas] The issue of 'Arafat's visit to the United Nations has not yet been discussed. It is still under study. The Palestinian command has not made any decision yet on this issue. When the Palestinian command makes such a decision, it wil be announced. 'Arafat will only go if we find that this visit will be effective and will lead to something new.

[Al-Barqawi] If this visit is to take place, when will it be?

[`Abbas] Of course, it will be during the discussion of the Palestinian cause at the United Nations on 29 November.

[Al-Barqawi] Many Palestinian figures of various affiliations from the occupied territories recently visited the Tunisian capital. What is the secret of these visits and what are their objectives?

[`Abbas] The nationalist figures come to Tunis to consult with the Palestinian command in light of the current political state of affairs. The arrival in Tunis of those whom we call non-nationalists is to open the door to those of them who want to repent and rejoin the Palestinian fold. We do not close the door to any Palestinian who strayed from the right path and now wants to come back to us. This is what we have been doing over the past 2 years. The intifadah leadership has more than once announced that any Palestinian who collaborated with the enemy can stand in the mosque or the church, or any other public place to proclaim his repentance. This is so because we are a people who abhor repression and killings. We always keep an open mind. For this reason, some Palestinians have expressed the desire to rejoin the Palestinian fold and the homeland. We do not object to their return. Our motto is let bygones be bygones.

[Al-Barqawi] Even for those who had been behind the death of 47 Palestinians?

[`Abbas] Even in this case, because we should not widen the wound. We do not want to repeat the tragedies of the past. The time is not for punishment. We are passing through a stage where there is no place for settlement of accounts. This will take place later.

[Al-Barqawi] Some people are talking about excesses and negative attitudes in the occupied territories and within the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah, and also about differences among some factions. How can these be overcome?

[`Abbas] Our people in the occupied territories number approximately 1.7 million; they are engaged in a large-scale militant experience through various factions with various affiliations and persuasions. Some negative attitudes, therefore, are inevitable, and this was the case in all the popular revolutions that preceded ours.

The most important thing, however, is to overcome these negative attitudes, and this can be achieved through wise leadership and through firm stands against all the acts that serve the enemy's purposes.

There are political differences among the factions. We are trying to overcome them by all means or, at least, to freeze them in the interest of the militant march.

Undoubtedly, there are mistakes, and the perpetrators of these mistakes should be made accountable. However, we should not pause in face of these mistakes; we must rectify them, and that is what the higher committee of the intifadah has been doing. [passage omitted]

[Al-Barqawi] A few days ago, U.S. Under Secretary of State Eagleburger said the U.S. goals in the region have not changed and that a basic element of these goals is to back Israel's interests. This leads us to talk about the latest developments regarding the Palestinian-U.S. contacts.

[`Abbas] There are no contacts at present; that is, there has been no dialogue after the fourth round. The U.S. positions are sometimes contradictory: Some official declares his country's support for Israel and another calls for implementing the international resolutions. This indicates the United States has not yet reached a final position. All that it has presented were mere contradictory views.

There is nothing new in the U.S. support for Israel. The United States considers Israel to be part of it, but it cannot ignore the new facts on the international scene—the most important of which is the existence of the Palestinian people and their rights. I believe the United States is running into trouble: It no doubt fully supports and backs Israel, but can no longer accept Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories. The Americans have repeatedly expressed this although they have not so far been putting any pressure on Israel to force it to change its positions.

[Al-Barqawi] Do you see a fifth round on the horizon?

[`Abbas] I think there will be a fifth round of talks, but the time has not been fixed. The Americans are perhaps waiting the outcome of the efforts being currently exerted in New York and Washington. We do not know if the Americans will come up with something new in the next meeting.

[Al-Barqawi] What about the European role in the next stage?

[`Abbas] There is coordination with the EC, and we have more than once announced our satisfaction with the EC position and its understanding of the Palestinian viewpoint especially as reflected in the Madrid statement. On our part, we believe that it is necessary for Europe to play a basic political role, although Israel and the United States reject such a role.

[Al-Barqawi] Back to the Israeli-Palestinian meeting, some say that the PLO insists on U.S., Soviet, and European attendance, not participation.

[`Abbas] The Palestinian-Israeli dialogue must be internationally supervised. It can be attended either by the two superpowers, China, the European countries, and a country like Sweden—which plays the role of mediator—or in the worst circumstances, by the UN secretary general or his representative. This is an international, not bilateral, question, and the solution should be based on international resolutions. [passage omitted]

Intifadah Leadership Gives PLO Full Powers

JN0910182689 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 8 Oct 89 p 1

[Text] Amman—AL-BAYAN has learned from Palestinian sources in Amman that the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah in the occupied territories has given the PLO leadership full political powers to deal with the proposed peace plans to solve the Palestine question in a just manner.

The sources said the Unified Leadership stressed its confidence in the PLO leadership and its abidance by any step undertaken by it.

WAFA Editor Comments on U.S. Vote on Israel

JN0816174889 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The political editor of the Palestinian news agency WAFA has commented on the U.S. vote against the resolution condemning the Israeli policy, which the UN General Assembly adopted last night, by saying: This is not the first time the United States stands alone in its objection to or rejection of a resolution condemning Israel over its terrorist policy in occupied Palestine. While 140 states condemned Israel on Friday, the U.S. Administration stood by Israel in rejecting the condemnation. This stance is added to the honorable U.S. history toward the Palestine question and Israeli terrorism. This amazing harmony between the Israeli rejection of the Egyptian proposals, which enjoyed U.S. blessings, and the U.S. rejection of condemning Israeli terrorism despite the position of the entire world, is perhaps no coincidence. The policy is American, the implementation is Israeli, and the U.S. Administration supports the Israeli stands and gives permission on whether to accept or reject. This places before this administration an international and historical responsibility that makes it extremely [words indistinct].

Fatah Central Committee Meeting Postponed

NC0710121389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Tunis, 7 Oct. (MENA)—MENA has learned that the Fatah Central Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed until after the PLO Central Council meets in Baghdad in mid-October.

Palestine President Yasir 'Arafat has announced that the PLO Central Council will meet to assess the ongoing developments in the Palestinian issue and Israel's refusal to hold a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. Responsible Palestinian sources expect that the PLO Executive Committee will hold a session before the meeting of the 120-member Central Council, which is the liaison body between the Palestine National Council (parliament) and the Executive Committee.

Intifadah Causing Political 'Crisis' for Israel

JN0810200089 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers, during its meeting Friday, the enemy's so-called inner cabinet rejected the Egyptian points on elections in the occupied Palestinian territories. This was expected since enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had already announced his rejection of the Egyptian points and renewed his stances, which include Israel's rejection of every move out of line with the infamous autonomy plan. The question is: Why does the enemy's government insist on its rejection of all peace efforts? Shamir himself answered this question during a symposium in Tel Aviv last week. He justified his rejection of the Egyptian plan by saying that his acceptance of it would have meant he had to negotiate with the Palestinians who lift the banner of the intifadah and that the negotiations would take place under the victorious banner of the intifadah.

Thus, Israel's rejection of peace efforts is ostensibly an attempt to win a position of strength, but in reality it reflects Israel's crisis in the face of the victorious, heroic intifadah and the insistence of the Palestinian masses on establishing the Palestinian state. Over the past 2 years and since the intifadah erupted, many Israeli politicians have been talking about this crisis faced by enemy leaders; namely, their rejection of the intifadah of stones imposing solutions on them—solutions that Arab armies, battles, and wars failed to impose.

Recent history provides us with similar positions: When the Algerian revolution succeeded in imposing its victories and goals on France under De Gaulle and made it respond to the demands of the Algerian people, French colonial leaders in Algeria staged a rebellion declaring their rejection of peace and their desire to continue their colonialist war. They were acting out of a mentality of force, the illusion of the ability to enslave peoples, and denial of freedom and will for peoples under colonialism. But the Algerian people and the movement of Algerian national independence swept these leaders away and scored victory.

Those who follow the ideas of the first generation of the Zionist movement find that these leaders are still hostage to colonial and racist ideas. They believe they can continue to achieve their aims against the Palestinian people—aims they would have never originally been able to achieve had the world not, at that time, been experiencing a colonial age in which black ideas on enslaving peoples, usurping their homelands and wealth, and rejecting their freedom and progress had prevailed. This is the reality of Shamir, his government, and all Zionist [illegible] them. They are now watching the collapse of all their old-fashioned and unacceptable concepts that the enite world has condemned; they are watching the collapse of

their force, which grew under the shadow of international conspiracies that served their terrorist, occupational, and colonialist schemes against our people and homeland.

Terrorist Menahem Begin stepped down as prime minister when the legend of his army broke in front of the steadfastness of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement in Beirut in 1982. The Zionist invasion of Lebanon, with its purpose of undermining the PLO's infrastructure, was a preface to undermining the entire PLO organization and the Palestinian people. But this infrastructure would not have been touched if there had been no small plots. The answer of the Palestinian people came through a gigantic intifadah in the occupied territories to sweep away the infrastructure that the occupation had built over a period of 20 years, and to bring this occupation face to face with the inevitable historical moment—the need to recognize the Palestinian peoples' right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

Let the Shamir government reject peace efforts; this does not mean, and will never mean, folding the victorious banners of the intifadah. The intifadah will encounter the rejection with the correct answer, an answer compatible with this rejection—namely, escalating the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people and boosting the will of confrontation, steadfastness, and sacrifice. The day of which Shamir and his gang are dreaming will never come. Shamir's golden days are over, and the entire world is now living the age of the Palestiian revolution, the age of the intifadah, the age of stones that will make freedom, and the age of martyrs who, through their virtuous blood, will build a state on the most sacred soil and for the most sacred capital, the capital of Palestine—beloved Jerusalem.

Let Shamir and his gang reject and adopt the stances they wish, but the banner of the intifadah will continue to be high and victorious. The leaders of the enemy will crawl on their bellies, as did before them all leaders of colonialism, who were forced by the struggling peoples to recognize the sacred rights of these peoples to freedom, existence, independence, and dignity. The dawn of Palestine is coming; it will not be stopped even if the Zionists detonate all the black hatred in their hearts. It is an irreversible fate—the fate of our victory, the fate of the establishment of our state, with God's help and will. It is a revolution until victory.

PFLP's Habash Address to 'Intifadah Masses'

NC0910200089 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Message by Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, addressed to "the intifadah masses in the occupied land" on 9 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] O men, women, and children of the stones and Molotov cocktails: Your gigantic intifadah is approaching the end of its 2d year, and the world's conviction of the justness of our cause and the legitimacy of our struggle is being reinforced day after day. Despite the unceasing plots against our cause, our determination to extract our inalienable national rights from the teeth of the oppressing Zionist beast has won our people wide-scale support, sympathy, and respect among the nations of the world as well as their liberation, democratic, and progressive forces. [passage omitted]

The failure of the barbaric repressive attempts and all the expertise of the various enemy apparatuses in breaking the power of the intifadah has prompted our enemy to embark on political maneuvers. He has put forward a political plan called the Shamir plan, which is hostile to the rights and aspirations of our people. This plan has reached an impasse as a result of its unanimous, clear, and decisive rejection by the Palestinian people. The Camp David regime in Egypt, in implementation of Washington's orders, has come out with its 10-point initiative in an attempt to rescue Shamir's plan from its predicament. Mubarak's 10-point initiative did not contain one single word about the PLO or the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, self-determination, or independent state. This initiative is just a vehicle for implementing Shamir's inauspicious and rejected plan. It aims to undermine Palestinian representation, frustrate the intifadah, and implement the liquidationist solution. For this reason, our Palestinian people and their unified national leadership have rejected this conspiratorial initiative, which is trying to circumvent the flow of blood, sacrifices, and suffering our people have offered and are continuing to offer. The stand taken by the unifed national leadership in its appeal No. 46 was clear and decisive in rejecting the conspiratorial initiative and in expressing your will and the will of our people and their national interests. [passage omitted]

I warn Husni Mubarak that he should stop playing the role of an obedient tool in the hands of the Americans and the Israelis in order to implement their designs and plans to liquidate the intifadah and the Palestinian cause. Our people have not authorized Mubarak or anyone else to speak on their behalf. Let Mubarak and his friends know that the intifadah of our people is continuing resolutely toward achieving its goals, and it will not stop. It has become a system of life for our people, who will not lay down their weapons until the goal of freedom and independence is achieved.

In this regard, I call on the official leaders of the Arab states to abide by the resolutions and pledges they have taken to politically and financially support our Palestinian people, their national cause, and heroic intifadah. [passage omitted]

O our resisting people in the occupied territory, the achievement of the national goals for which the intifadah broke out demands the realization of the following tasks and necessary steps:

1. The achievement of the highest level of discipline and abiding by the instructions and decisions of the unified national leadership by all organizations and individuals. Any gap in this will weaken the power of confronting the enemy. The enemy will be the one to benefit from our shortcomings, mistakes, and any excesses which may take place. He will penetrate these gaps in order to achieve his aims and plots.

2. Persistent endeavor should be made as soon as possible to unite the popular organizations—workers, women, student, health, agricultural, and so forth. Unity is our future and the future of our intifadah—unity built on a militant basis for the mobilization of the masses and the explosion of their creative and innovative capabilities within the framework of the great revolutionary action which is taking place in the land of Palestine against the usurping enemy. In this regard, the unification of intifadah organizations, such as popular committees and battalions [kata'ib] in one army according to a specific system and measures concerning all is the most urgent step at this moment. It will constitute a more serious and strong shield for confrontation and resistance and will enable the intifadah to inflict the highest losses on the enemy, forcing him to retreat. It will also perpetuate and strengthen popular authority, influence, and the popular image, and will advance the day of victory.

3. Secondary differences and contradictions which appear in the body of the intifadah and in some of its parts should be abandoned in order to confront the principal contradiction represented in the occupation and its repressive practices. The differences which exhaust national action and inflict damage on the image of the unified leadership should end forever. [passage omitted] I appeal to all parts, committees, and organizations of the unified leadership to involve everyone in the activities of the intifadah. Any negligence on anyone's part will only mean weakening the intifadah and its ability to confront the enemy. The escalation and fortification of the intifadah must be the first item on our agenda.

4. All parts of the unified national leadership—and I say this from a position of national responsibility and I appeal to all—must agree on a struggle program with a higher tone and greater effectiveness to be more painful to the enemy. It should be in harmony with the revolutionary spirit of our people and their aspiration for liberation from occupation. Dealing destructive blows to the Zionist civil administration system and the remnants of the occupation pillars and dealing additional blows to the occupation are essential steps for strengthening the popular authority and the influence of the unified leadership.

5. The PLO Executive Committee's decision banning political contacts with the Zionist leadership should be observed. The futility and uselessness of such contacts have been proven. In fact, they have left and will leave negative effects on the intifadah and its masses.

6. I call on you again to inflict the greatest losses on the enemy's economy by boycotting his products, refusing to pay taxes, depending as much as possible on national products, and struggling to achieve self-sufficiency through developing the policy of domestic economics and generalizing the policy of family solidarity.

O strugglers for freedom, our battle against our enemy and his plans is vicious and long, and we must make our calculations on this basis. We must not have illusions. Our enemy is seeking desperately by various methods to frustrate the intifadah and destroy its political, organizational, and militant basis. Nevertheless, I say to you and stress that your glorious intifadah is entering its 23rd month with the same strength. It will go ahead. We have no other alternative. There is no room for retreat. We will make the enemy understand that our will is stronger and that we are more patient. [passage omitted]

Egypt

President Comments on Talks With U.S.

JN0610123789 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 Oct 89 p 1

[By Hamdi Fu'ad and Michel Ragata]

[Excerpts] Washington, Rome—Before leaving Washington for Rome and from there back to Cairo, and following a day of intensive activities in the U.S. capital, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak stated that he was completely satisfied with the results of the successful talks he had held with President George Bush, the secretaries of state, defense, and treasury, and the national security adviser and members of the two houses of Congress.

In statements to AL-AHRAM, President Mubarak said that the peace process needs much patience and continuous efforts. We will work for peace whatever the obstacles. He added: I am satisfied with my talks with President Bush and the members of the U.S. Administration. I do not want to be hasty in announcing the results because what is more important is to achieve what is required. Then we can reveal the results that were attained. He added: With respect to the economic talks, they were satisfactory and encouraging. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, told AL-AHRAM that it is expected that Egypt will inform the PLO about the results of President Mubarak's talks in the United States because Egypt is careful not to appropriate the Palestinians' right or to act on their behalf in any matter, except on matters that the Palestinians and the Palestinian command accept.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the talks President Mubarak held with President Bush and the U.S. Administration were very beneficial, and emphasized the need to expedite the initiation of a dialogue, particularly since circumstances are very propitious for all the parties. He added: We will closely follow up these contacts.

He said: Presidents Mubarak and Bush agreed that there be permanent contacts between myself and James Baker in Washington and with the Israeli Government to set an appropriate date for my trip to Tel Aviv to hold talks there. He added: It is still too premature to announce the date of my trip. This trip is under discussion but needs several arrangements and needs to be scheduled. [passage omitted]

Baker Message Contains 'Certain New Ideas'

NC0910185989 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Our radio correspondent has learned that the Foreign Ministry is currently studying the message which Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received yesterday from U.S Secretary of State James Baker. The message is on the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and ways to give momentum to peace efforts in the Middle East.

The Foreign Ministry is currently contacting PLO officials to learn the organization's views on the points included in the message, which presents certain new ideas which would give an impetus to the peace process and help develop a formula to bring the Palestinian and Israeli views closer.

'Arafat Scheduled To Visit Egypt 13 Oct

NC0910152089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Oct (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat will arrive in Cairo on Friday, 13 October, for talks with President Husni Mubarak on latest developments in the Arab, Palestinian, and international arenas.

This was stated by a Palestinian source, who added that the visit falls within the framework of continued consultations and coordination between the Egyptian and Palestinian leadership.

According to the source, 'Arafat will later leave Cairo for Baghdad to attend the meetings of the Palestine National Council due to begin on Sunday.

Mubarak Delivers October Anniversary Speech

NC0610112889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the anniversary of the October war, in Cairo on 6 October—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, brother citizens, I speak to you today on an anniversary dear to us all, cherished in all our hearts, and immortal in the pages of our national history. It is the anniversary of the glorious October war.

The October war was the war of all Egyptians, of all sects, ages, and ways of thinking. The October victory was the victory of all Egyptians, the victory of the pious martyrs and brave fighters, and the victory of every family which offered a martyr or had any members who were injured. It was the victory of every family which offered a warrior or participated in the pure struggle to elevate national and Arab dignity. It was the victory of all the sons of the homeland who displayed cohesion in sacred unity and did their duty on the war front everywhere in Egypt.

It is a victory that all generations should celebrate with their heads held high. They should celebrate it in full self-confidence, and be proud of the most precious sacrifice by Egyptian patriotism, made in order to free

the Egyptian will and purge the land of every vicious aggressor who thought this noble nation would surrender to despair.

There were tendentious rumors and allegations prior to the October war, aimed at causing despair, frustrating the free souls, and making us retreat. They said the Egyptian Armed Forces would stay impotent for half a century, and that Egypt's present and future were destroyed. Then the Egyptian Armed Forces proved that, with the limited arms in his possession, the Egyptian fighter is able to challenge, confront, and destroy aggression and achieve an overwhelming and miraculous victory. This victory is still a basic topic taught in all international military institutions.

They also said it would take an atomic bomb to destroy the Barlev line. If you do not possess the atomic bomb, which you do not, you had better stop talking about a war to liberate the land and accept surrender. History knows no defeated country that could impose conditions for peace. This is your reality, which you must accept regardless of its severity, they said.

However, the Egyptian Armed Forces have proved that Egypt's Army is made up of men and heroes who are stronger than the atomic bomb. These men crossed water barriers and huge barricades that were equipped with the heaviest offensive hardware, and they scored a brilliant victory. Experts have unanimously agreed that this victory is a military miracle unprecedented in the history of warfare.

All the monitoring centers throughout the world, which were following the dreadful battle, were taken aback. They could hardly believe that such an imaginative victory could be achieved at such speed, and with such bravery and heroism. All scientific calculations ignored one basic fact—the willpower of man—which drew on all its resources to face the impossible with unshakable faith, proving that defending the sacred soil is the holiest of national duties. Faith was truly the principal factor in achieving the glorious October victory. The cries of "God is great" came from brave, faithful hearts. These cries were the main support for the Egyptian fighter, who was in control of himself and of his weapons. The Egyptian fighter sacrificed his life with all bravery and heroism in order to write the brightest golden page in our modern history. Over the years this page will speak loudly to the world, telling it that this is Egypt, this is the Egyptian, and this is Egypt's Army.

On this dear day, we extend our greetings to the heroes in all our brave Armed Forces, who willingly chose to be the nation's shield and sword and to offer their lives in defense of Egypt's destiny and foundations against any act of aggression that seeks to harm and destroy us. They are the defenders of the land; they are the defenders of national unity; they are the defenders of the lofty construction which aims to achieve a dignified life for every citizen in Egypt.

On this dear day, we also salute the late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, who embodied the people's will. He was a brave leader who made the decision for war under the most difficult circumstances ever faced by a nation. He was inspired by the will of the people when he made the decision for peace. Millions willingly supported him and, consequently, every inch of our precious land was liberated.

Brother citizens, today we celebrate the glorious October victory now that we have liberated every inch of the cherished Sinai land. Every handful of our soil belongs to the people, who are fully sovereign.

The peace struggle was harsh and difficult. Severe pressures were exerted but they failed to make us change our minds. We were subjected to numerous maneuvers and false accusations. We faced these with patience, irrefutable arguments, and heroic defense of our national rights. We resorted to an international forum that upheld justice. The other party respected the international decision and Tabah was returned to Egypt. The entire world spoke with admiration and appreciation because we set a new example; namely, we showed that conflicts between states can always be resolved through legitimate and peaceful means.

Hence, I say that the October war was not merely a military operation. The achievement of peace is not merely a written treaty. Victory in war for the sake of peace means that society can be built anew. The richest and strongest peoples could not make the same sacrifices that we made in four wars within a short span of time. This had a negative effect on the reconstruction process and thus the peace battle became harsher. The army fighting in the peace battle comprises every Egyptian man and woman in all walks of life and on every inch of Egyptian soil. We are all aware of the economic obstacles that have faced and are still facing us. The first of these was our need for billions of pounds to undertake infrastructure projects. You know that huge achievements have been made in the shortest time possible in this field but the reconstruction process is still long and hard. We are facing a huge effort in the battle to increase production. There can be no progress without production that fulfills both local consumption needs and the need to export abroad. Other numerous problems stem from this one, the most prominent of which is the need to provide work for everyone capable of working and then attain self- sufficiency in food. All these problems require us first of all to appreciate how immense they are and to realize that doubling our creative work is the only way to confront these problems; there is no other way. No problem is insoluble but there are no solutions that will drop from the sky. We must seek them with all our resources. Solutions are the result of sweat, constant work, collective action, positive cooperation, and real participation in the responsibility for taking and implementing decisions.

This is my constant call and I keep repeating it tirelessly to you. It is a call for building the present for the sake of

the future. It is a call for hope in a new future, a call for action rather than stagnation, and a call for awakening for the sake of renaissance. The renaissance is for our Egypt, for all of us.

The October victory had many bases, the most important of which were belief, planning, and boldness, and, above all, self-denial. The Egyptian people have always possessed these attributes and are united when confronted with hardships. It is the Egyptian people's nature to build, construct, and look toward new horizons. We should remember these aims on this October anniversary; we should rally around them in one procession, a procession that carries the banners of building and construction, increased production, rectification of errors, and the provision of new resources, and that keeps up to date with the developments of this age everywhere.

If the world focuses attention on Egypt, with great respect and admiration for its struggle for peace, the world also directs its attention to an Egypt which is building a society of justice and equal opportunity and is in search of a dignified life worthy of all citizens. The world does not see us as a country of slogans and cheers. The world does not see us as an isolated and uninfluential state. Our position is high and we must ensure that it is always high.

Brothers and sisters: I congratulate you on the occasion of the October anniversary and wish success to all of you. I implore God Almighty to strengthen our efforts in order that the October anniversary may always see us stronger in our structure and higher in our position. May God grant his success to us and all of you. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

AL-MUSSAWAR Cited on Talks With IMF

NC0410114889 Cairo MENA in English 1105 GMT 4 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, Oct 4 (MENA)—Egypt and the International Monetary Fund have agreed to hold a new round of talks as they failed to reach agreement in the recent round of talks held in Washington, Cairo weekly magazine AL-MUSSAWAR learnt.

The magazine said that the difference between the IMF delegation and the Egyptian delegation led by Deputy Premier and Minister of Planning Dr Kamal al-Janzuri centered on two points, namely raising the interest rate on local currency savings and unifying the exchange rate of the dollar in Central Bank pool. The IMF demanded that the interest rate on local currency savings should be raised to about 25 percent in order to exceed the inflation rate and consequently curb the push on purchase of the dollar and other foreign currencies for maintaining dollar deposits or for smuggling abroad. Egypt showed readiness to raise the interest by one percent annually as a sudden and high increase would certainly affect investment activity in Egypt because investors would bear similar increases in the interest rate of loans.

As for the unification of the dollar exchange rate in the Central Bank pool, it is maintained at present at about 110 piastres and the funds are used mainly for basic food imports. The IMF holds the view that the unification of the rate at one stroke would enable the Egyptian economy to avoid many problems and would also practically indicate the volume of deficit in the budget. Egypt indicated that although it may accept in principle the unification of the price of dollar in the central bank, the implementation should be within a phased plan that takes into consideration the interests of the limited income bracket, particularly that all the revenue of the Central Bank pool is used for financing the basic supply imports.

AL-MUSSAWAR quoted an official Egyptian source as saying that Egypt had presented an integrated programme aimed at reducing the budget deficit (of eleven billion dollars) within a certain number of years. Egypt managed this year to reduce the deficit from 17 percent to 12 percent through serious procedures for reducing expenditures and moving prices to strike a balance between the costs of production and the selling prices, while at the same time guaranteeing a reasonable profit to insure the continuation of the production process.

Libya

Al-Talhi on Bush, Al-Rabitah Chemical Plant

NC1010084889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0710 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Oct (MENA)—Libyan foreign minister Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi has stated that President Husni Mubarak and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi have agreed to continue their contacts and consultations. He also stated that when they meet again Mubarak and Al-Qadhdhafi will discuss Arab, regional, and African issues.

Al-Talhi said that the strengthening of Egyptian-Libyan relations in all fields is proceeding quickly and in an impressive way. A great deal has been achieved so far, including the resumption of air and overland transport, and the free movement of citizens between the two countries.

In an interview published today in the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, the Libyan foreign minister stressed that his country has a genuine desire to establish normal relations with the United States, based on mutual respect and without any U.S. conditions. He said that the United States is a superpower which no one can ignore.

He explained that there is now less tension in U.S.-Libyan relations under the Bush administration than there was under the Reagan administration. This is because President Bush possesses rich political experience, making him more capable of understanding others. He indicated that several Arab parties are interested in

bringing about a resumption of normal relations between Libya and the United States.

Al-Talhi stated that the completion of the al-Rabitah plant in Libya has been held up because of pressure which has delayed the arrival of equipment to the factory. He said that his country was hoping to open the plant last month during the celebrations marking the 1 September revolution anniversary. However, the delay in the arrival of the equipment prevented the opening of the plant. Al-Talhi stressed that Libya does not intend to produce chemical weapons, although there is no international law or agreement preventing it from doing so. He called for a unified Arab stand to confront Israel's test firing of long-range and medium-range missiles.

Iraqi Presidential Envoy Arrives in Tripoli

LD0810161489 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Oct (JANA)—Brother Arshad (?al-Zibari), minister of state and special envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

JANA Editor Criticizes Report on Missile

LD1010090889 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] The British newspaper THE SUNDAY CORRESPONDENT has carried a report by four journalists that Libya is developing a plastic missile which would strengthen Libya's offensive capability. The paper quotes U.S. intelligence sources as saying that the range of the missile exceeds 600 km, noting that this range enables Libya to strike a number of targets in the Mediterranean such as the NATO air base in Sicily.

The paper says the missile can carry chemical weapons and notes that Libya has been trying for some time to expand its military power. It adds that in an effort to complete the project Libya has tried to buy components of the guidance system for the U.S. Nike-Hercules surface-to-air missile with a view to fitting new warheads to the missile. It said Al-Qadhdhafi's goal is to build a missile with a range of 1,600 km which could reach occupied Palestine, and notes that the U.S. is worried about this Libyan program.

JANA's international affairs editor has commented on the British newspaper's article, which was also caried by the Western media. He said that no one can be unaware that there is a Western plot to halt any Arab progress, especially in the military sphere or anywhere where Western interests are threatened or where the Zionist enemy in occupied Palestine is threatened. Therefore we are not surprised to hear these voices from time to time reiterating the Zionist tune warning against the danger of Arab military progress and the danger it poses to the interests of the West and world peace.

The editor affirmed that the Western media, which compete in publishing anything about the development of the Arab military industry, willfully maintain silence about the Zionists arsenal which contains the most dangerous and deadly weapons of destruction ever achieved by the West, beginning with chemical weapons and ending with nuclear bombs and not forgetting the various other weapons.

The editor recalled that the most recent attempt by the Zionists to develop weapons which threaten Arab security and endanger the Arab future was the test of a medium-range missile by the Zionists last month. The missile landed north of Banghazi. The editor explained that these attempts by the Zionists have serious significance and meaning particularly when they underline that all the Arab countries have become the strategic target of the expansionist Zionist plans.

JANA's international affairs editor explained that the US, which, according to the British paper, expressed concern about the development of the Libyan missile, signed a strategic cooperation agreement with the Zionist enemy which guarantees the Zionists full benefit from the development of U.S. weapons and opens the U.S. arms market to Zionist ambitions.

The editor noted that the Western media hushes up the crimes committed by the Zionists against the Palestinian people, crimes which surpass all the crimes against humanity that have been recorded by history. He said the reason for this silence and indifference cannot be innocence or goodwill toward the Arabs.

The editor concluded by saying it is high time that the West, which for the last 40 years has viewed events with only one eye—the Zionist eye—and speaks with one voice—the Zionist voice—to open its other eye to see the truth in full, the truth that will one day assert itself no matter how much the West tries to avoid it or overlook it.

General People's Congess Session Ends

LD0810094189 Tripoli JANA in English 0847 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tumur [October] 8, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The General People's Congress concluded last night its extraordinary session held in Tripoli and coincided with the 19th anniversary of revenge.

The General People's Congress formulated the following decision:

The General People's Congress meeting in an extraordinary session on 7th Rabia al Awal 1399, corresponding to 7th Al-Tumur 1989 [7 October] having listened to the historic speech of the leader dealing with his objective and scientific appraisal of the people's power process through its instruments—The People's Congresses and People's Committees and the working methods of these instruments as well as dealing with several local, national, and international issues, decides to charge the

secretariat of the General People's Congress in collaboration with the General People's Committee, the Secretaries of Congresses and People's Committees at municipalities to lay down scientific and draft laws regarding the issues raised by the leader in his speech and submit them to the Basic People's Congresses.

The General People's Congress elevated Giumaa al-Mahdi al-Fazzani [name as received] as secretary for the affairs of the Arab Maghreb Union to the General People's Committee.

Diplomatic Ties Established With Ivory Coast

LD0610200489 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] New York, 6 Oct (JANA)—The establishment of full diplomatic relations between the Great Jamahiriyah and Ivory Coast was announced today in a joint statement which was signed at the UN headquarters in New York.

The [word indistinct] was signed by the brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation and, on behalf of the Republic of Ivory Coast, by Foreign Minister Simeon Ake, in the presence of the delegate of the Great Jamahiriyah to the United Nations and the permanent delegate of the Ivory Coast.

The joint statement reads follows:

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Government of Ivory Coast, out of a desire to strengthen the ties of friendship on the basis of the Charter and principles of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and within the framework of the principles of equality and mutual respect for sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, noninterference in the domestic affairs of states, and the peaceful settlement of conflicts, have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors as of 6 October 1989.

Morocco

Ministry Statement on Mauritania Attack

LD0710212689 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Statement from the Information Ministry:

On the morning of Saturday, 7 October 1989, Polisario mercenaries from Mauritania launched an attack on the military positions in the military subsector situated south of Guelta Zammour and were repulsed by our valiant royal armed forces which inflicted on the enemy the following losses:

Eighty people were killed or injured; the enemy left 10 bodies at the site of the battle. Our forces have captured four prisoners and seized five armored vehicles, one jeep commander car, and nine jeeps loaded with various military equipment including missile launchers and antitank launchers.

Our royal air force also bombarded the enemy destroying 12 vehicles and 3 ammunition dumps.

There were 14 martyrs from the royal armed forces including an officer with the rank of colonel, and one officer and 30 soldiers were injured.

In this context MAP has learned that in the meeting held in Tripoli on the occasion of commemorating the al-Fatih revolution, between His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Popular and Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Algerian President asked His Majesty the king to receive once again a delegation from Polisario. A similar request was also made to His Majesty by His Excellency UN General Secretary Javier Perez de Cuellar.

In order not to disappoint the wish of those two respectable personalities and due to the friendly relations linking them to Morocco, a number of contacts took place last week between Algeria and Morocco to prepare for His Majesty's reception of the Polisario delegation. However, due to this attack His Majesty King Hassan II, who belongs to the school of his father, the late Mohamed V, and upholds its principles, does not and will not allow this meeting to take place under these circumstances and within the framework of this objectionable type of dealing.

Communique Issued on Hassan Visit to Spain

PM0610113889 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA ET DU MAGHREB in French 28 Sep 89 p 1

[MAP report: "An Excellent Phase in Bilateral Relations Between Spain and Morocco"]

[Text] A communique was issued in Madrid on Wednesday [27 September] to mark His Majesty King Hassan II's first official visit to Spain.

The following is the full text of the communique:

"At the invitation of His Majesty King Juan Carlos I, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid and Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasna, made a visit to Spain on 25, 26, and 27 September 1989.

"His Majesty King Hassan II had talks with His Majesty the King of Spain and had talks in Madrid with the government chief.

"During their visit to Spain, the delegation members, namely Ahmed Osman, speaker of the Chamber of Representatives; Minister of State Moulay Ahmed Alaoui; Foreign and Cooperation Minister Abdellatif Filali; Bensalem Smili, minister of ocean fisheries and the merchant marine; Mohamed Kabbaj, minister of public works and vocational and cadre training; and

General Mohamed Achahbar, secretary general of the national defense administration, had contacts with Spanish Government officials in their respective spheres of competence.

"These contacts took place in a climate of great cordiality and proved the excellent phase which bilateral relations between Spain and Morocco are experiencing.

"Three major agreements were signed during this visit:

"—A cooperation agreement in the defense sphere setting up a joint commission between the two countries' armed forces and aimed at enabling the two armed forces to have a better knowledge of each other through the mutual training of staff, the exchange of information, joint exercises, and the joint production of some military equipment.

"—An agreement on encouraging and providing mutual guarantees for investment which will provide assurances and guarantees for investors in the two countries and which completes the framework agreement on economic and financial cooperation of 28 June 1988 which came into force today following the two sides' announcement that their constitutional formalities had been completed.

"—An additional agreement on a permanent link between Europe and Africa via the Strait of Gibraltar which follows from the 16 June 1979 Fez declaration and the 24 October 1980 cooperation agreement and which will be the practical symbol of communication between the two continents in an exemplary piece of cooperation.

"—Inspired by the joint desire to strengthen their bilateral relations, the two sides decided to continue and intensify the existing political dialogue between the foreign ministers by institutionalizing contacts at the level of government chiefs, similar to those which already exist with other countries with which they have preferential relations. These meetings will take place at least once a year and will alternate between the two countries. They will jointly examine the state of bilateral relations and the development of cooperation in the political, economic, social, cultural, and technological spheres. The first will be held in Morocco next year.

"The visit by His Majesty King Hassan II also enabled the two governments to exchange views on matters of common interest relating to the international situation, notably peace and security in the Mediterranean area.

"Spain and Morocco particularly stressed their common desire to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EC and the Arab Maghreb Union."

Issued in Madrid on 27 September 1989.

Iraqi Envoy Arrives in Morocco With Message

LD0910134889 Rabat MAP in English 1224 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Rabat, Oct 9 (MAP)—Iraq Minister of Planning and Presidential envoy Samal Faraj arrived here Sunday with a message from President Saddam Husayn to King Hassan II.

This visit, Faraj said upon arrival, falls in the context of the closing relations existing between Morocco and Iraq expressing hope that it will contribute to consolidate further the two countries' cooperation and solidarity.

Sudan

Ethiopian Diplomat on 'Good State' of Talks

EA0510214589 Khartoum SUNA in English 1620 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Oct (SUNA)—Ethiopia is keen that peace be achieved in Sudan because the continuity of war in Sudan means instability in Ethiopia, the Ethiopian ambassador to Sudan said. The Ethiopian diplomat described as a good state the talks held recently between the Ethiopian Government and the Eritreans. The ambassador met here today with members of the National Salvation Revolutionary Council, NSRC, Brig Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, who briefed him on the steps taken by the government for achieving peace in the south.

Paper Says Ethiopia To Curtail Aid to Garang

EA0510174089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Oct 89

[From press review]

[Text] AL-INQADH AL-WATANI [NATIONAL SALVATION] says the rebel movement is trying to move its base to Uganda or Kenya. Al-INQADH AL-WATANI learned from press reports in Doha the day before yesterday that the rebel leader, John Garang, is trying to move his military operations from Ethiopia to Uganda and Kenya. This is because he has been told by the Ethiopian Government that it will curtail its assistance to the movement in terms of territory, abode, and movement. In this respect, said the paper, Garang asked Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi for permission for his forces to operate on the joint southern borders, when he visited those countries. The two presidents did not give Garang a categorical go-ahead but promised to study the request.

Meanwhile, AL-INQADH AL-WATANI reports that the differences in the movement's leadership, between the groups of Mansur Khalid and Lam Akol Ajawin, have reached the point at which the latter has called for the dismissal of Mansur Khalid, while Mansur Khalid is demanding that Lam Akol should not be the movement's official spokesman.

Garang Meets Malawi's 'Life President'

EA0710200789 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The SPLM-SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement-Sudanese People's Liberation Army] leader, Dr John Garang de Mabior, in the third leg of his Southern Africa visit, met his excellency, the life president of Malawi, Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, at the State House in Lilongwe, Tuesday, 3 October 1989. The meeting was attended by the administrative secretary of the Malawi Congress Party, secretary to the president and cabinet, and secretary for external affairs.

During the meeting, the SPLM-SPLA leader briefed his excellency, the life president, about the situation in the Sudan, the war, and about the question of peace. He again presented the movement's four-point peace program to his excellency, the life president, Ngwazi Dr H. Kamuzu Banda, and the members of his government—the points which he had earlier presented to the leaders of Zimbabwe and Zambia.

It is to be recalled that the SPLM-SPLA peace program consists of the following four points: (A) The forming of a broad-based government of national unity and the new Sudan made from the SPLM-SPLA, the regular Sudanese Army, democratic political parties, and trade unions.
(B) The formation of a new army that will be consistent with the particularities of the new Sudan and that shall be made from the SPLA and the Army of the old Sudan.
(C) The convening of a national constitutional conference that will draft a constitution for the new Sudan.
(D) The holding of the free general elections, formation of democratic government based on the results of the elections and ratification of the draft constitution by the national assembly.

These four points, the SPLM-SPLA leader said, if and when implemented, would bring a permanent and lasting peace to the country.

The SPLM-SPLA leader also asked his excellency, the life president, to give his political and diplomatic support and that of the people of Malawi to the SPLM-SPLA peace program. Besides the diplomatic and political support, Dr John Garang also asked for hoes, seeds, fishing nets, and food in general for the displaced people in southern Sudan.

On his part, the life president, Ngwazi Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, expressed appreciation and support for the SPLM-SPLA peace program and stressed on the need for the two warring parties to adapt [as heard] the spirit of what he called contact and dialogue to bring the two sides to the negotiating table. Dr Banda also explained at length the history of southern Africa, including the wars fought, dating back to the time of Shaka Zulu, the coming of the Angoni tribe to Malawi, the tribal wars fought in Malawi, and how he managed to bring the different nationalities of Malawi to live together in harmony as members of one family.

The SPLM-SPLA leader, Dr John Garang de Mabior, expressed his appreciation for the work that his excellency, the life president, has done for the people of Malawi to maintain the unity of the people of Malawi, something that he said the Sudanese lack among themselves and that has caused us 23 years of war of the 33 years of independence. Dr John also expressed appreciation for the achievements of the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda: the economic development, provision of food, shelter, and clothing to most Malawians. He described Dr Banda as the eldest statesman of Africa, and that consistent with African traditions the SPLM-SPLA has great respect for elders.

At the end of the meeting, the Malawian life president presented to the SPLM-SPLA leader some gifts and wished him success in his endeavor to build a new united, democratic Sudan.

In another development, the SPLM-SPLA leader, Dr John Garang de Mabior, gave a press conference to the Malawian press, radio, and television and to the BBC and ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondents. He explained to them that SPLM-SPLA's peace process has received acceptance in the three southern African countries—Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi—which he visited.

On the diplomatic uproar raised by Sudan's new military junta about his red carpet reception in these countries, Dr John Garang de Mabior replied that the countries he went to were free to choose how to treat the SPLM-SPLA leader than the military leader in Khartoum. [sentence as heard] He argued that both of SPLM-SPLA and the junta in Khartoum were rebels and that the SPLM-SPLA has better credentials to represent the Sudanese people. We are democratic rebels and the junta are dictatorial rebels, said the SPLM-SPLA leader. We have presented a peace program. The government in Khartoum has none. The leader of the junta, only a few days ago, has said that he was prepared to partition the country, to let the south go if they so wished, while the SPLM-SPLA stands for Sudanese unity.

So you have the situation where the sitting government in the national capital, Khartoum, is for separation while the SPLA stands for national unity and territorial integrity of our country, concluded Dr John Garang. The SPLM-SPLA better represents the Sudan abroad than the military junta in Khartoum and the red carpet treatment accorded to the SPLM-SPLA leader is an acknowledgement of this reality.

On the invitation that was extended to him to address the so-called peace conference in Khartoum, the SPLM-SPLA leader called the invitation meaningless because, as he said, no guerrilla leader can be expected to go to the national capital of the government he is fighting. No government that is fighting guerrillas can provide protection to that guerrilla. The government in Khartoum cannot provide protection for me. Only the SPLA and

the Sudanese People can do that. The invitation was merely a publicity by [as heard] the National Islamic Front military government.

On the support that the SPLM-SPLA enjoys in the country, the SPLM-SPLA leader revealed that the whole area of War Zone 1 is under the SPLA except for the few garrison towns, which are under siege by the SPLA. He said that the liberated area that is exclusively under the SPLA control is bigger than the area of Ghana or Uganda, about 100,000 square miles, and that in War Zone 2 the movement has lots of support because our appeal is not based on racial lines nor religious lines. We are now in Southern Kordofan and Southern Blue Nile Provinces and we are there to stay, said the SPLM-SPLA leader. He said that the SPLM-SPLA is much more popular in Khartoum than the military junta, adding that when Al-Bashir called a mass rally in Khartoum only less than 3,000 turned up in a city of 5,000,000, but if the SPLA turns up in Khartoum today, more than 1,000,000 would attend an SPLM-SPLA rally.

He concluded that the SPLM-SPLA enjoys mass support not only in the Sudan, but all over Africa, as witnessed by the red carpet treatment Dr John Garang gets across Africa and the massive attention [as heard] of Dr Garang's lectures in African universities.

Defense Official Receives Chinese Ambassador

EA0510221289 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] The state minister at the Ministry of Defense, Major General Uthman Muhammad al-Hasan, retired, received at his office the Chinese ambassador to Sudan. The two sides reviewed the development and rehabilitation of the People's Armed Forces on all levels. The meeting also discussed bilateral relations between the two countries and means of promoting them.

Security in Upper Nile Said 'Stable'

EA0610073689 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Member of the RCC [Revolution Command Council], Brigadier Pio Yukwan, continued the revolution's call for John Garang to participate in the national dialogue conference on peace currently convening in Khartoum. Meanwhile, on the security situation in the northern part of the Upper Nile Region, Brig Pio said security is stable at Renk since the (?action) of the (?revolution). He said: So far no incidents were reported in the area. Brig Pio lauded the full cooperation between the organized forces and the [word indistinct] in maintaining security in the area.

On the objectives of his current tour of Renk town, Brig Pio said it comes within the framework of enlightening the masses about the objectives of the Salvation Revolution. He pointed that the delegation accompanying him comprised 16 representatives of ministries and various government departments including (?the) representatives of the Da'wah Islamiyyah [Islamic call] Organization, [words indistinct] agency, Sudan Council of Churches and Sudan Aid. He said the delegation members are to acquaint themselves with the general situation in the area with the aim to compile reports and raise them to the authorities concerned.

Report Says 70,000 Deaths in Southern Conflict

EA0510195689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Oct 89

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] A Report Which Has Saddened Everyone: This is the headline in today's AL-SUDAN AL-HADITH. The paper says that the national dialogue conference's subcommittee on the effects of the war has completed its report and submitted it to the conference for approval. The contents of the report saddened all those present, including the southerners. The report described the destruction wreaked upon agricultural, industrial, and mining projects, roads, hospitals, schools and homes in the south. Assets worth billions have been destroyed.

Even more drastic is the loss of life between 1984 and the present day. In the space of a mere 5 years 4,600 officers and other ranks of our Armed Forces, 2,700 men of the police and other regular forces, and about 62,000 civilians have lost their lives as a result of the war, disease, and starvation. [passage omitted]

Khartoum Leader, Rebels Reject 'Separation'

PM0610152389 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 4 Oct 89 pp 1-2

[Kamal Hamid report: "Inclination Toward Applying Federalism in Sudan"]

[Excerpt] Khartoum, London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, member of Sudan's National Salvation Revolution Command Council, yesterday denied reports that the Revolution Command had received a memorandum from 57 southerners demanding the separation of the South.

Colonel Khalifah told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: The council has received no such memorandum. Besides, the basis on which the southern leaders proceed these days is different. But it seems that certain circles seek to cause confusion and abort the positive results which the national dialogue conference will declare to the world at the end of its proceedings on 21 October.

Colonel Khalifah indicated that the inclination now is to officially declare the application of the federal system in Sudan, now that one of the committees of the national dialogue conference currently being held in Khartoum—namely, the committee on "future options for ruling Sudan"—has adopted the federal system option, provided that it is applied gradually from next year through 1998.

REUTER yesterday said that it had read a memorandum signed by 57 southern academicians and church and tribal leaders demanding the separation of the South.

The memorandum says: The separation question has been a pressing issue for the people of southern Sudan since it became their historic demand.

But the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], which is waging the war in the South, has rejected that memorandum and considers it "an attempt to justify the secessionist appeals emanating from Khartoum recently."

Dr Lam Akol, a Garang movement leader, said: The memorandum does not represent the views of the southern people.

Meanwhile, former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has warned against the dangers of the proposals about separating the South of Sudan, urging the neighboring African states and the OAU to confront the danger of separation "which threatens not only Sudan, but the African Continent as a whole."

In a statement, a copy of which AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has obtained, Numayri said: "Separation of the South is certainly no solution to such a complex and multifaceted problem like this. The narrow-minded internal forces—which believe that by separating the South on the basis of the density of the pagans and Christians there they can achieve their objective in the North by exploiting its people's sympathy—do not in fact realize that they are hammering the last nail in their coffin."

The statement came in response to the statements made recently in Khartoum about the readiness of the National Salvation Council government in Sudan to accept the separation of the South if the southerners agree on it.

Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir told REUTER last week that if southerners chose separation he would be ready to discuss it with them.

But the Garang movement has rejected the separation offer. [passage omitted]

Tunisia

Ben Ali Announces Political Bureau Changes

LD1010034689 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali received Abderrahim Zouari, general secretary of the Democratic Constitution Rally, in the presence of Prime Minister Hamed Karoui.

After the meeting, Abderrahim Zouari said that the chairman of the Rally [Ben Ali] introduced an amendment to the composition of the Political Bureau. The present composition is as follows:

Deputy Chairman of the Rally	Hamed Karoui
General Secretary of the Rally	Abderrahim Zouari
Treasurer of the Rally	Abdallah Kalal
Members	Abdelhamid Escheikh
	Mohamed El Jeri
	Chadli Neffati
	Mohamed Ghannouchi
	Habib Boulares
	Hamouda Ben Slama
	Ismail Khelil

Press Decries 'Illegal' Statement on Education

LD0510154289 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Oct 89

[Text] Tunisian newspapers today concentrated their commentaries on an important point, which is the state's utmost effort to secure a better education for the coming generations.

These commentaries came after an illegal statement constituting a dangerous precedent against the democratic course. The one who issued the statement adopts a hostile stance against the education reform and contradicts all the bases of democratic dialogue.

After recalling that the state is working toward strengthening the national charter and adheres to the contents of its August principles, the newspapers stressed that anything contradicting the bases of legitimacy and violating the foundations of the civlian society is a violation of unanimity, of the requirements of the civilized dealings, and of the democratic bases of the state of law and institutions.

The newspapers stressed that the style of society we require is a civilian society governed by freedom, democracy, and tolerance. They also stressed the necessity of supporting the state, which pursues a better education for the coming generation by adopting an education system free from the faults of the past and able to progress while respecting the bases of our Arab Islamic civilization.

The reform of education and its course and the revision of its curricula so that they combine a strengthening origins with a modern, contemporary education are a necessary condition for eradicating ignorance and backwardness and for mastering science and technology.

Any statement or leaflet, the content or spirit of which contradicts the contents of the national charter or contradicts the bases of legitimacy and civilian society is a violation of unanimity, law, and the requirements of civilized life.

The Tunisian newspapers called for opposing any project aimed at violating the legitimacy and democratic bases of the state of law and for confronting the attempt to spoil the return to school. The newspapers called on society to combat every effort to open the door to chaos.

The newspapers also condemned any opposition to the supreme national options and to the better aspirations of the nation and its hopes for modernization. The newspapers stressed that the democracy, demanded by the head of state, is unity of the nation around its essential national issues and supreme interests away from bargaining, fanaticism, force, and violence.

Pro-Islamic Leaders Arrested 7 Oct in Tunis

LD0810112689 Paris International Service in French 0630 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] In Tunis three leaders of the pro-Islamic Renaissance Movement [Nahdah], a banned party, including its secretary general, Abdelfattah Mourou, were arrested yesterday. Mourou's wife said she has no news of her husband who was arrested in the morning at his home by plainclothes policemen.

Western Sahara

'Fierce Attack' Launched Against Moroccans

LD0710203789 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] This morning units of the Saharan People's Army launched a fierce attack against Moroccan forces in the region of Guelta Zammour. This was noted in a statement released today by the Saharan Information Ministry. According to the statement, the attack lasted until 1000 this morning, forcing the Moroccan forces to retreat to their positions 25 km inside the defense wall.

The Saharan statement added that this attack resulted in killing and wounding a large number of Moroccan soldiers in addition to the loss of large quantities of military equipment.

SADR Envoy on Moroccan Ministry Statement

LD0910061689 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] After about a year of relative calm on the battlefronts in the Western Sahara, the situation explodes anew, leaving dead and wounded. Following the statement last night by the Saharan Information Ministry regarding the Saharan People's Army's extensive attack on the positions of the Moroccan forces in the area of Guelta Zammour, south of the Saharan territory, leaving dead, wounded, and prisoners, the Moroccan Information Ministry confirmed that the attack did take place. It also confirmed what the Saharan statement said regarding the killing of a colonel, as well as 14 soldiers, and the wounding of 31 others within the ranks of the Moroccan forces. The Moroccan statement also pointed out that the attack resulted in the death or wounding of 80 Saharan soldiers.

In the wake of the Guelta Zammour attack, Moroccan King Hassan II canceled a second meeting expected to take place with the Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia el Hamra and Rio de Oro], SADR [Saharan Arab Democratic Republic] Ambassador in Algeria Ibrahim Hakim talks to the radio on this subject:

[Begin Hakim recording] Following our fighters' operation against the Moroccan occupation forces, one notices that this war continues as long as its causes still exist. The war will always continue as long as its causes remain. Among its causes is the Moroccan expansion and the attempts by the Moroccan (?regime) to occupy other people's land by force. [Words indistinct] the meeting between Hassan II and the Polisario Front, at any rate we had met with Hassan II at the beginning of the year and we met him with open hearts and extended the hand of peace to him. We hoped that other meetings would take place so that we would embark on the road to peace at the end of this war between our people and the Moroccan regime. But we received a big disappointment from Hassan II. He practiced the (?policy) of fleeing forward and the policy of escalation, and the barring of all doors to all efforts. At any rate, this statement in which they said that Hassan II was expected to meet with the Polisario, Hassan II from the beginning of this year and until now has been giving dates for such a meeting with the Polisario but he never kept these dates. Therefore, he has undermined the confidence with which we went to him.

At any rate the only new issue in the Moroccan Information Ministry statement is about the possibility of a meeting; it is confirmation that there is international pressure being exerted on Morocco to leave the Sahara and negotiate with the Polisario Front. When it said Perez de Cuellar asked, etc, this is what it meant [words indistinct] what we have always said and what is actually happening. The international community is contantly pressuring Hassan II to begin negotiations with the Polisario Front. What does this mean? It means the international community rejects the Moroccan occupation of the Sahara. [end recording]

Communique on Foreign Minister's Meeting

LD0910113189 Algiers APS in English 1017 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] SADR, 9/10/89 (APS)—Mohamed Sidati, Political Bureau member of the Polisario Front and SADR foreign affairs minister had a series of talks with a lot of his counterparts and heads of delegations in connections with the works of the 44th session of the UN General Assembly, a communique from the Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture announced on Sunday. He met the foreign affairs ministers from Mali, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Guatemala and Suriname who reaffirmed their undefectible support to the Saharan people's struggle for its right to liberty and independence as they reiterated their support to the settlement of the conflict, opposing SADR to Morocco, through dialogue and negotiation, the communique added.

Kuwait

Iranian Ambassador Presents Credentials

LD1010104889 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Kuwait, Oct. 10, IRNA—Iran's newly-appointed ambassador to Kuwait Hoseyn Sadiqi presented his credentials to Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, in a meeting here Tuesday.

Expansion of relations between the Islamic Republic and Kuwait was discussed during the meeting.

Iraqi Trade Minister Arrives With Saddam Message

LD0910101489 Kuwait KUNA in English 0801 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 9 (KUNA)—Iraqi Minister of Trade Muhammad Mahdi Salih arrived here last night carrying a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to H.H. the amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah concerning bilateral relations.

Kuwaiti minister of trade and industry Faysal al-Khalid received Salih at the airport.

Salih was in Jeddah where he conveyed a similar message to the Saudi monarch King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz

Meanwhile two personal envoys of the Iraqi president, one in Libya and the other in Morocco, conveyed messages from Saddam to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Morrocan monarch King Hassan II.

Libyan Envoy, Delegation Arrive From Iraq

LD0910184889 Kuwait KUNA in English 1554 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 9 (KUNA)—Libyan special envoy and member of the Revolutionary Command Council Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi arrived here Monday night leading a military delegation to the country.

The Libyan official arrived from Baghdad where he delivered a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to President Saddam Hussayn of Iraq.

Upon arrival here, Al-Khuwaylidi was received by Minister of Interior Shaykh Salim al-Sabah and Interior Undersecretary Yusuf al-Kharafi, in addition to the Libyan ambassador here.

Al-Khuwaylidi, it is believed, will hand a message to the amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad from the Libyan leader.

Amir Receives Libyan

LD1010124589 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Excerpt] This morning at 1000 his highness the amir received Major al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi, member of the Revolution Command Council in the sisterly Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who handed his highness, may God protect him, a message from his brother His Excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Stresses Afro-Arab Cooperation

LD0610204189 Kuwait KUNA in English 1625 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] United Nations, Oct 6 (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Al Sabah called Friday for greater African support of Arab causes, in particular the Palestinian people's struggle against the Israeli occupier and wider recognition of the Palestinian state. As current co-chairman of the standing committee on Afro-Arab cooperation, Shaykh Sabah pledged increased support for Arab-African cooperation in all areas "taking it to new horizons for the interest of our Arab and African peoples."

In an address before the committee, Shaykh Sabah expressed the Arabs' appreciation to those African countries that promptly recognised the Palestinian state.

"I wish to express our great appreciation to all countries that promptly recognised the Palestinian state, while hoping the friendly African nations that haven't done so yet will join their sisterly African and Arab ones in supporting the Palestinian people's struggle and recognising their state," Shaykh Sabah said.

Israel and South Africa, he told the meeting, now stand alone and isolated within the world community which he said explains why those two regimes have been collaborating in all fields, "especially in the area of nuclear arms and exchange of expertise in acts of repression, murder and terrorism."

Shaykh Sabah also appealed to the African countries to support the United Nations secretary-general's efforts in pursuing the implementation of Resolution 598, calling for a comprehensive settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict.

From the Arabs' point of view, he said, this is the only way to ensure the establishment of durable peace and security in the region.

He deplored the lack of progress on the humanitarian side, namely the exchange of prisoners of war between the two countries.

Demanding that this "urgent human issue" not be pending on political matters or "impertinent negotiation purposes," Shaykh Sabah called for African support for

this issue which he said would be "a prop and an incentive to achieve the progress required."

Regarding Lebanon, Shaykh Sabah called upon the international community to exercise all pressures to ensure Israel's withdrawal from South Lebanon in compliance with Security Council Resolution 435.

On Arab-African cooperation, Shaykh Sabah recalled Kuwait's proposal to the Standing Committee at the last meeting in Kuwait last June for the creation of a joint Afro-Arab investment establishment.

The committee, in turn, recommended that the proposal be taken up by a special joint meeting that recently had been convened in Washington by the finance ministers of the committee's member states.

"This trend represents a triumph for the cooperation endeavours, and we should express our satisfaction with the attention given to this project by the finance ministers during their meeting in Washington," he said.

The finance ministers recommended that the prompt be promulgated among the member states and that they submit their comments within a short period, not exceeding four months.

Oman

Sultan Qabus Receives Tunisian Envoy, Message

JN0810151489 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id, may God protect him, today received Lahbib Ben Yahya, Tunisian secretary of state for foreign affairs, at his office in the al-Husn Palace in Salalah.

The Tunisian official conveyed to his majesty a written message from his brother, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of brotherly Tunisia.

The meeting was attended by Haytham Ibn-Tariq Ibn-Taymur, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; and the Tunisian ambassador to Oman.

Sultan Qabus Receives Iraqi Envoy, Message

JN0810152389 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id, may God protect him, today received 'Abdallah Fadil 'Abdallah, Iraqi minister of awqaf and religious affairs, at his office in al-Husn Palace. The Iraqi minister conveyed to his majesty a written message from his brother, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

The meeting was attended by Hilal Ibn-Su'ud Ibn-Harib, minister of justice, awqaf, and Islamic affairs; and the Iraqi ambassador to Oman.

The Iraqi minister arrived earlier today in Salalah civil airport. He was received by Hilal Ibn-Su'ud Ibn-Harib and the Iraqi ambassador to Oman.

Information Minister Back From Iraq, Egypt Tour

JN0910142389 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] His Excellency Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz Ibn-Muhammad al-Rawwas and his delegation returned home today from Baghdad after an official 3-day visit to the Iraqi Republic. Before that he visited the Arab Republic of Egypt in a similar capacity.

Upon his arrival, his excellency was received by Information Affairs Secretary Hamad Ibn-Muhammad al-Rashidi, the accredited Iraqi ambassador to the Sultanate, and a number of officials in the Information Ministry.

Qatar

Heir Apparent Receives Iraqi Envoy, Message

JN0910135089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Doha, 9 Oct (INA)—'Abdallah Fadil, President Saddam Husayn's envoy and minister of awqaf and religious affairs, has handed Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, a message addressed to Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani. The message was delivered to the Qatari heir apparent during a meeting here today.

The Iraqi envoy left Doha this afternoon.

Foreign Minister Addresses United Nations

JN0710140689 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0535 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] United Nations, 7 Oct (WAKH)—Qatar has expressed its joy over the resumption of the mission of the higher Arab tripartite committee entrusted with solving the Lebanon problem.

Last night at the meetings of the 44th UN General Assembly session currently being held in New York, Qatar, through Foreign Minister 'Abdallah Ibn-Khalifah al-'Atiyah, praised the noble efforts exerted by the committee and the positive steps it has taken so far.

It called on all the Lebanese sides to continue cooperating with the committee since that is the only guaranteed way to rescue Lebanon from the whirlwind of the fighting and bring it to the oasis of security and safety after its long period of suffering.

It also renewed its condemnation of the Israeli enemy's occupation of southern Lebanon and the Syrian Golan Heights, reaffirming that the Palestine question was and

remains the most prominent issue continuously challenging the international community. It pointed out the special responsibility the United Nations should shoulder toward this cause.

The State of Qatar drew the attention of the United Nations and the internatinal community to the important developments which have arisen concerning the Palestine question and which have turned it into the prime international peace and security concern. Foremost among these developments is the Palestinian people's intifadah in the occupied territories and the declaration of the independent state.

The State of Qatar described the Palestinian intifadah as a liberation revolution against the Zionist occupation's settlement plans and constant violations of the sanctity of the holy land in Palestine.

On behalf of his country, the Qatari foreign minister saluted the blessed intifadah on Palestinian territory and pointed out Qatar's continuing support and backing for it.

In his speech, he called on international organizations and bodies in responsible positions to appeal to the world's conscience to stop the annihilation attempts practiced by the Israeli occupation authorities to empty Palestine of its rightful owners.

He praised the Palestinian policy of following a just and comprehensive peace to solve the dispute in the region.

Mr al-'Atiyah described in his General Assembly speech the dialogue between the United States and the PLO as a positive and important development on the right path but pointed out that dialogue is not a goal in itself.

He also expressed the State of Qatar's deep relief over the halt in the Iraq-Iran war which he described as a destructive war draining the human and material resources of the two neighboring countries.

He said that the response of both sides to the efforts of the UN secretary general to implement Security Council Resolution 598 on ending the fighting is the true guarantee for establishing the desired peace between the two sides in the region.

Concerning the Afghan question, the Qatari foreign minister affirmed once again in his speech his country's support for the Afghan people's right to self-determination and choosing their own political system without any foreign intervention.

Saudi Arabia

Iraqi Minister Hands Saddam Message to King

LD0810230789 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Excerpt] King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, received today at his office in al-[illegible] Iraqi [illegible] Minister [illegible] al-Rawi, who delivered to him a message from his brother President Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq. [passage omitted]

Libya's Al-Humaydi Delivers Message, Departs

LD0610212489 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Major al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, left Jeddah this evening after a visit to the Kingdom during which he delivered to King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, a message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He was seen off at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz international airport in Jeddah by 'Ali Ibn-Musallim, adviser at the royal court, a representative of royal protocol, and Al-Tahir al-Dabbash, Libyan charge d'affaires to the Kingdom.

Refusal of U.S. Visa to PLO's 'Abd-Rabbuh Hit

PM0610160989 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "In Order That the Palestinian Peace Option Should Not Fail"]

[Text] What is the meaning of the U.S. refusal to grant PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh an entry visa to participate in the proceedings of the 44th UN General Assembly session in New York? And is there any link between that decision and U.S. President George Bush's address to the United Nations 2 days ago, in which he broached the drug war in Colombia and chemical weapons but made no reference to the Middle East issue, despite the important developments which that issue has witnessed recently?

And is the U.S. refusal to grant 'Abd-Rabbuh an entry visa an indication that the Palestinian president too will be refused a visa, as happened last year?! And what is the future of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue in view of the recent U.S. decision?!

These questions are raised while the brave Palestinian intifadah in the occupied Arab territories is entering its 3rd year and escalating day after day, that is, despite the advanced methods of Zionist repression against it, which defy all criteria and rules stipulated by international conventions and charters on human rights. These rights are violated daily and openly there under the eyes of the entire world!

The U.S. refusal to grant 'Abd-Rabbuh an entry visa has a special significance for a number of reasons, most important of which are: that 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department, heads the delegation to the U.S.-PLO dialogue, four official and several unofficial rounds of which have been held since December; [illegible] since [illegible] the year in which the United

Nations decided to grant the PLO observer staus—'Abd Rabbuh has participated in all annual sessions without interruption;

This refusal comes while the PLO continues to adhere to the peace option and to stress that that option is strategic, not tactical.

The Palestinians will see the U.S. decision as backtracking on the U.S. Administration's position on the Middle East issue, in a position which has witnessed tangible improvement since President Bush took office early in the year, as a result of which the U.S. Zionist lobby has intensified its activities to distort the facts and put pressure on senators, subject them to emotional blackmail, and mobilize their sympathy against the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights, the simplest of which is their legitimate right to the political and informational struggle available to them via their representatives' participation in the UN General Assembly meetings and via the official capacity granted to them 15 years ago by that international organization.

What is required now is to bolster, not abort, the peace process. And the Palestinian people have proved that they are negotiating for the sake of peace and proceeding on the road of struggle for the sake of endorsing their legitimate rights, whatever the sacrifices and the challenges—something which the intifadah is tirelessly proving every day through its martyrs, wounded, detainees, and expellees, that is, without any sign of desperation or retreat from its demands for liberation and independence.

United Arab Emirates

Iraqi Trade Minister Arrives With Message

JN0910172989 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1610 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Oct 9 (GNA)—An envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn arrived today carrying a message to President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan dealing with bilateral ties and current Arab evelopments.

Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih was met at the airport by Minister of Electricity and Water Hamid Nasir al-Uways and a number of officials, including Iraqi Ambassador Taha Rajab Uraym.

President Receives Envoy, Message

JN0910173189 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1640 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Oct 9 (GNA)—President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan today received a written message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with the brotherly relations between the two countries.

The message was delivered by Iraqi Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih during a meeting with Shaykh Zayid here this evening.

Yemen Arab Republic

Iraqi Justice Minister Delivers Message to Salih

JN0910190089 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1450 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received at his office this evening brother Akram 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Ali, minister of justice in the fraternal Iraqi Republic.

During the meeting, he delivered a written message to the brother leader president secretary general from his brother His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with the new developments in the Arab arena and the issues of interest to the Arab Cooperation Council's countries, in addition to relations between the two fraternal countries.

The meeting was attended by brother Yemeni Justice Minister Muhsin al-'Ulufi.

Al-Iranyi Meets Kuwaiti, Ethiopian Counterparts

JN0610184189 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member, met today in New York with Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayeh. He held separate discussions with them on bilateral relations. He also reviewed regional and international issues on the agenda of the UN General Assembly's 44th session and joint coordination concerning these.

Foreign Minister 'Aziz Concludes Trip to U.S.

Calls for POW Exchange

JN0610194489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] United Nations, 6 Oct (INA)—Iraq has affirmed its readiness to embark on an immediate and comprehensive exchange of prisoners of war with Iran. This came in a message the permanent representative of Iraq conveyed from Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to UN Security Council President Eves Maurtaire [name as received] during a meeting today.

Tariq 'Aziz expressed in his message Iraq's willingess to embark on an immediate exchange of prisoners with Iran. The INA correspondent in New York said that Iraq's representatives at the United Nations discussed with the Security Council president the role of the council in implementing the Third Geneva Convention call for an exchange of prisoners immediately after the cessation of military operations.

Meets Baker in Washington

JN0710120689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Washington, 7 Oct (INA)—Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met yesterday in Washington with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral issues and means of developing them, in addition to a number of issues of mutual concern.

Tariq 'Aziz had met in New York with the foreign ministers of the other four permament member countries of the Security Council: Britain, China, France, and the Soviet Union.

Returns to Baghdad 8 Oct

JN0810162389 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Oct (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad from New York this afternoon after leading Iraq's delegation to the meetings of the 44th session of the UN General Assembly.

Tariq 'Aziz had met with a number of Arab and foreign ministers there. He also met with the foreign ministers of the five permanent Security Council member states and discussed with them a number of international issues of common interest.

Saddam Chairs Joint RCC, Cabinet Meeting

JN0710130689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn chaired this morning a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council (RCC) and the cabinet which lasted nearly 3 hours.

During the meeting, they discussed issues on the agenda, made decisions, and took appropriate measures.

President Saddam Receives Oman's Al-Rawwas

JN0810182889 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] President leader Saddam Husayn received Omani Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawwas in Baghdad this morning. They discussed brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to promote them. The meeting was attended by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim. The Omani information minister expressed his overwhelming happiness over his meeting with President leader Saddam Husayn.

In a statement to INA today he said that meeting with a great leader such as President Saddam Husayn—a leader who has a special position in the greater Arab land, maintains significant political ideas, and enjoys a charismatic personality—will increase our experience in many important subjects and issues of interest to the Arab nation.

Al-Rawwas also said: As media men we take pride in this vision and the advanced political ideas, hoping that we will rise to the level of that vision, because our duties as described by President leader Saddam Husayn cover various vital fields. He also described relations between the Sultanate of Oman and Iraq as historic, close, and old as civilization itself, stressing that they will grow in the various fields. He added that the political views of the leaders of the two countries are based on the Arab nation's interests, pointing out that relations promoted by the Omani-Iraqi joint committee will open broad horizons to develop brotherly relations in order to achieve the joint ambitions.

Al-Rawwas also said that the aspirations of the media men in the two countries are based on close cooperation within the framework of the Arabian Gulf information ministers council. The Omani minister affirmed that the future will witness a great growth in bilateral relations and in cooperation among the media organs.

Omani Envoy Leaves 9 Oct

JN0910152389 Baghdad INA in English 1430 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 9, INA—Omani Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawwas said that the talks he conducted with Mr. Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of information and culture, were successful and postive.

Prior to his departure from Baghdad today after a visit to Iraq, the Omani official told IRAQI NEWS AGENCY that the talks dealt with expanding scopes of cultural and

information cooperation to consolidate the brotherly relations between the two countries.

It is to be recalled that the Omani official arrived here last Saturday.

Libya's Al-Humaydi Meets Officials in Baghdad

Arrives, Issues Statement

JN0810194089 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council and Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's personal envoy to his brother President Saddam Husayn, arrived in Baghdad this evening.

In a statement to INA, he said that he was carrying a message to President Saddam Husayn dealing with relations between the two countries and ways to promote them as well as with issues of interest to the Arab nation. He also expressed happiness at being in Iraq and at conveying the Libyan president's greetings to Iraq over its complete victory. He was received at the airport by Sa'dun Hammadi, [Iraqi] Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, and the Libyan charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

Delivers Message to Saddam

JN0910123689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1148 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn this morning received Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council and personal envoy to his excellency from his brother Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and the accompanying delegation. Maj al-Humaydi conveyed to the president a message from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on relations between the two sisterly countries Iraq and Libya, ways to promote these relations, and Arab issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by Sa'dun Hammadi, [Iraqi] Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister; and the Libyan charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

Makes Statement, Departs

JN0910191389 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of Libya's Revolution Command Council and personal envoy to leader President Saddam Husayn from his brother Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, left Baghdad this afternoon.

In a statement to the INA, the Libyan envoy said: We were very happy to meet with President Saddam Husayn. We handed his excellency a message from his brother Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries and the Arab and international issues of mutual concern.

He added: We found that President Saddam Husayn has all the readiness to support the common Arab action, which concerns the Arab nation and the developments of its resources so that it can assume its position and status among the peoples and nations.

The Libyan Revolution Command Council member said: We also found a sincere desire to develop bilateral relations in all fields.

He was seen off at the airport by Sa'dun Hammadi, [Iraqi] Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister; the head of the Foreign Ministry's Arab Department; and the Libyan charge d'affairs in Baghdad.

Saddam Husayn's Envoy Leaves Baghdad for Amman

JN0710090289 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] President leader Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother Jordanian monarch King Husayn, Justice Minister Akram 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Ali, left Baghdad this morning for Amman. The president leader's envoy carries a message from his excellency to his brother His Majesty King Husayn.

Minister Leaves for Saudi Arabia With Message

JN0710213089 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Muhammad Mahdi Salih, His Excellency President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques and trade minister, left Baghdad for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia today.

The envoy of His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn is carrying a message from his excellency the president to his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques.

Information Minister Leaves for Morocco 9 Oct

JN0910124589 Baghdad INA in English 1200 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 9, INA—Mr. Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information, today left Baghdad for Morocco to attend the conference of Arab culture ministers opening in Rabat tomorrow.

Speaking to INA before departure, Mr. Jasim said the conference would discuss several cultural projects, including the national library, the Arabic encyclopedia, the Arab center for arabization, translation and publishing and the implementation of a comprehensive plan for Arab culture.

He added that the conference will also lay down the general framework for cultural agreements among the Arab countries in addition to discussing the position of Arab and Islamic culture among other international cultures.

Azerbaijan Deputy Premier Arrives on Visit

JN0610124789 Baghdad INA in English 1215 GMT 6 Oct 89

Baghdad, Oct 6, INA—Soviet Azerbaijan Deputy Premier Asinov Rakim Alisej [name and title as received] arrived in Baghdad today to take part in the festivities of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society.

The ceremony of celebrations is to start tomorrow.

Editor Calls on Iran To Stop 'Provocations'

JN0610154789 Baghdad INA in English 1450 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 6, INA—The editor of international affairs at the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY said that Iran should immediately stop committing provocations and planning intrigues against Iraqis and warned against dangers of the reckless behaviour of aggressing upon the residence of the Iraqi ambassador in Tehran.

On 22nd last August, groups of the Iranian regime guards stormed the residence of the Iraqi ambassador in Tehran and tried to construct buildings at the residence garden, a matter contradicting with legal norms.

The editor said that horrible disasters affected Iran and the Iranians over eight years as a result to intentions of implementing the Iranian greedy expansionist aggression against Iraqi territories.

The editor added that the Syrian regime and Zionism, the allies of Iran, did not cease encouraging the Iranians and providing them with military armament and intelligence information and political advices over the years of aggression.

A statement by the Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information Mr. Latif Nusayyif Jassim earlier this week stressed the dangers behind the Iranian aggressive behaviour against the residence of the Iraqi ambassador in Tehran.

The minister also warned against the negative consequences entailing such behaviour.

The minister also warned those supporting the Iranian regime for carrying out grave provocative stances against Iraq saying that they were playing with fire and diverting them from serious work for realising a permanent and comprehensive peace with Iraq and in the region.

The INA editor said that the Iraqis have full right to reciprocate and reply on the Iranian measure with the same method and that Iraqis have the potentials for incurring a decisive punishment on the aggressors whoever they should be. But, he pointed out, the Iraqis under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn are aware of the importance of the course of the peace and the needed patience and effort for reaching solid stability in the region which is awaiting construction, progress and development.

The Iraqi course for peace was materialised soon after effecting ceasefire in August last year by starting reconstruction as an expression of their faith in peace that is based on right and justice.

Paper Says Syria Serving Israel in Lebanon

JN0810125689 Baghdad INA in English 1200 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 8, INA—A study published here today by the Iraqi daily AL-JUMHURIYAH said that the Syrian regime is rendering an important service to the Zionist entity through increasing tension in Lebanon.

The study said that Syria did not represent any serious threat to the Zionist security due to the conspiratorial policy of the Syrian regime and its continued interference in the Lebanese issue.

AL-JUMHURIYAH daily reviewed the risks behind the Syrian interference in Lebanon and said that the Syrian regime had divided the Lebanese national unity through various means and in the meantime it stood handfolded vis-a-vis the Zionist intervention of the Lebanese territories in 1982 under the pretext of losing the strategic balance between Syria and Zionist entity.

AL-JUMHURIYAH daily said that the continuation of the Lebanese crisis which is required by the Syrian regime supports the Zionist entity to feel secured in its northern borders with Lebanon and Syria and to direct its efforts towards oppressing the heroic uprising of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territories.

The daily added that the existence of many armed conflicts in the region and this is sought by the Syrian regime leads to enhance the picture of the Zionist entity through making the Zionist entity claim that it is innocent of being an element of instability and tension.

The newspaper concluded the article by saying that the Syrian interference in Lebanon renders at all levels great service to the Zionist entity therefore, Tel Aviv expressed its fully [as received] satisfaction with the brutal crimes committed by the Syrian regime in Lebanon.

Shamir Interviewed About Inner Cabinet Vote

TA0610191389 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Yig'al Goren in the Prime Minister's Office on 6 October following the Inner Cabinet session—videorecorded]

[Text] [Shamir] I believe this is the first time in quite a while that I must say the defense minister is wrong, but he is wrong really because the Israeli Government's peace initiative is alive, kicking, valid, and binding on all Cabinet ministers, including the defense minister. We have missed no opportunity. We could not, and we should not, have accepted the Alignment's motion, which included a meeting between representatives of the Israeli Government with a delegation appointed by the PLO and operating according to PLO directives. This would have been in total contravention to the spirit and content of the peace initiative endorsed by the Israeli Cabinet.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, you have often emphasized the great importance Egypt has in the peace process. We had here an Egyptian proposal, perhaps the first, and Israel eventually rejected it.

[Shamir] True. Egypt is important to the peace process. We have said that the partners to the Camp David accords, and first and foremost Egypt, must help implement the initiative. Egypt has the right to make suggestions and offer advice, but Israel is not obligated to accept any piece of advice and every proposal submitted by Egypt.

We can definitely tell the Egyptians that we thank them very much but that this specific proposal does not suit us; let us search for another way. We sometimes say the same thing to the United States. Here we really had an opportunity, and I believe the opportunity still exists. There is a U.S. idea—I would even call it a proposal—to organize some sort of meeting with representatives of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip under more comfortable conditions for us. This proposal, however, has still not been submitted formally in writing to the Cabinet, and I hope it will indeed arrive. We will then discuss it, examine it, and if we find it serves our interests and the interests of peace in the region, we will embrace it. If this happens, then today's proposal will obviously be of no consequence.

[Goren] But in the meantime the Alignment, which today once more found itself losing in an Inner Cabinet vote, may carry out its threat to bolt the coalition.

[Shamir] I very much hope they will not do so. I think that the Labor Party must understand, as the Likud does, that the continued existence of the government in its present form, the unity government, is important and crucial, primarily for the furthering of peace in Israel and in the region. Therefore, they will not rush to take this hasty and, in my opinion, damaging step.

[Goren] They claim that today, because of the braces ministers, you in fact preferred to maintain the unity of the Likud rather than to further the peace initiative.

[Shamir] These are stories, old wives tales. I act according to my understanding and the dictates of my conscience. I would not have hesitated to make a decision contrary to the position of any member of the Cabinet had I been convinced that this could really serve the cause of peace and Israel's interests. On this occasion this was not the case.

[Goren] And how would you respond, sir, to those who say that perhaps you did not really want to begin talks in Cairo, and consequently opted for the status quo?

[Shamir] Well really, that is ridiculous. Why did I put myself at the head of those promoting the peace initiative? I traveled all the way to the United States with this peace initiative. I went to meet the U.S. President. Why did I go? Because I remain convinced even today, to this very moment, that this initiative can bring us to peaceful coexistence with the Arab world. Not at once, not in a short time, not in a month or in a year. This is a lengthy process. It is also not an easy one, but this is the only way.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, will you take any steps to keep the Alignment in your government and stop them from resigning? What, if anything, can be done?

[Shamir] Look, first of all I think we will still discuss the peace initiative. I hope the U.S. proposal will arrive in the form delivered by our foreign minister. I hope it will be submitted in a formal manner, and that we will discover—perhaps; I am not sure—that it holds the means of furthering the peace process.

[Goren, interrupting] Together?

[Shamir] Together, I understand... [changes thought] I hope that the Labor ministers will not dicker about party prestige and will accept this proposal. We will then be able to progress together, even though it is difficult; and I must say that there are deep differences between ourselves and the Labor Party. In my opinion, however, we must all make a joint effort to strive together in the pursuit of peace.

Shahal Sees No Basis for Government's Existence

TA0610115789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Interview with Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal, after the Alignment ministers' consultation following the Inner Cabinet session on 6 October, by political correspondent Natan Gutman—live from the broadcasting van outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem]

[Text] [Gutman] We have Minister Moshe Shahal with us in the van. Good afternoon.

[Shahal] Shalom.

[Gutman] Minister Shahal, are you disappointed that the Alignment's proposal was defeated?

[Shahal] I am definitely disappointed with the rejection of the Alignment's stand—not for the Alignment's sake, but for that of the entire Israeli people. To my deep regret, the Likud ministers chose a partisan concept over national responsibility. Most surprising was the prime minister, who I believe acted today out of extremely narrow, partisan considerations. In fact, by rejecting the proposal for a meeting between an Israeli and a Palestinian delegation acceptable to us to promote the political initiative, he undermined that initiative and caused a freeze in the situation. He worsened Israel's predicament and detrimentally affected what I believe were excellent chances, from Israel's point of view, to implement the initiative. He also caused one more thing: He cast a serious doubt on the sincerity of the Likud members' a priori willingness to achieve any political initiative.

[Gutman] For a moment it seemed as though a compromise was in the offing. It appeared that the Baker initiative would bridge the gaps between the Likud and the Alignment. What befell that initiative?

[Shahal] It was not submitted. Only the most ambiguous, incomplete statements were made by the foreign minister. Furthermore, the minutes that were furnished were not taken by our personnel. It seems that no one in the Israeli party took notes.

[Gutman] How do you explain that?

[Shahal] I cannot explain it, and the truth is that I have no explanation for it. I only know that as a minister, whenever I meet with Israeli officials—and all the more so overseas—I find it imperative to take down the specifics of the talks with whomever I confer. I am simply surprised by this phenomenon.

No such proposal was submitted to us. I do not know what to tell you. I can only say that if this is the standard for addressing serious matters—perhaps the most serious events occurring in our times—then I have grave doubts regarding the degree of seriousness the Likud members attribute to this entire issue.

[Gutman] Minister Shahal, the Alignment's proposal that Mubarak's initiative for an Israeli-Palestinian meeting be adopted was defeated, and the Likud adheres to its previous initiative. Is the Alignment marching toward a crisis? How do you see the political developments henceforth?

[Shahal] I believe there is first of all a crisis regarding peace. That crisis wipes out the basis that would justify the continued existence of the unity government, whose sole reason for existence is its ability to reach an understanding on promoting a political process or even only parts thereof.

[Gutman] Do you think there is currently no justification for the continued existence of the unity government?

[Shahal] I think that logically its existence cannot be justified; in any event, it is simply becoming an overblown entity. Its reason for coming into being was to advance the political initiative. I believed in that and consequently helped establish this government. I honestly thought that the Likud sincerely wanted to advance to a certain agreed-upon point. But I regret that I must say that the contents of the statements made today, more than anything else, lead me to believe that we are dealing with people who suffer from a myopic viewpoint and whose sincerity, in my eyes, is highly questionable.

[Gutman] Finally, do your colleagues in the Alignment share your belief that there is no room for the unity government to continue to exist anymore?

[Shahal] I believe we are talking in unison insofar as the conclusion is concerned. The political question that derives from today's events will undoubtedly be discussed in the party institutions. Right now, my attitude stems from great pain and concern for the contents themselves, not necessarily the partisan or political question. I simply grieve with all of us who feel that there is at present no one capable of tackling one of the gravest issues facing the people of Israel.

[Gutman] Minister Moshe Shahal, thank you very much.

[Shahal] Thank you.

NRP Minister Objects to Dissolving Government

TA0610122089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The NRP [National Religious Party] objects to the dissolution of the government. A few minutes ago the prime minister spoke on the telephone with Minister Hammer, updating him on the outcome of the Inner Cabinet session. Mr Hammer replied that it is still too premature to eulogize the unity government and that there is no reason to downplay the chances for a political breakthrough. He suggested that Mr Shamir again review the NRP's compromise proposal. The above was reported by our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch.

The MAPAM [United Workers Party] Knesset faction has reacted to the Inner Cabinet tie by taking action to call an extraordinary Knesset session to force the Cabinet to exhaust the current political peace process and to encourage the leaders of Egypt, the United States, and the Soviet Union to assist in promoting the Israeli initiative.

Knesset Factions React to Inner Cabinet Vote

TA0610140289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The Likud Knesset faction expressed its support for the position taken by Likud Cabinet ministers in today's vote, stating that they had repelled the threat of the inclusion of the PLO in negotiations with Israel, which could have led to the establishment of a second Palestinian state inside the country. Knesset member Yehoshu'a Matza, chairman of the Likud caucus, said that it is becoming clearer and clearer that Shim'on Peres acted in concert with Egyptian President Mubarak and in coordination with the United States behind the prime minister's back.

The Tzomet faction declared that the tie in the Inner Cabinet vote is another product of a two-headed government in which any connection between its two heads is strictly coincidental. It added that the best decision the government can make is to dissolve itself and call for elections.

The MAPAM [United Workers Party] Knesset faction is initiating an urgent convening of the Knesset Plenum during its recess. This move is aimed at compelling the government to exhaust the current political process and further the Israeli peace initiative.

The Shinuy movement exhorted the Labor Party to bolt the coalition immediately. It said that it has been proved once again that the Israeli Government's peace initiative has been stymied due to the position adopted by Minister Ari'el Sharon and by Yitzhaq Shamir's hesitancy.

The Moledet Knesset faction expressed satisfaction with the Inner Cabinet's decision and voiced its hope that the Cabinet ministers will have the sense to recall Shamir's initiative out of fear that it may lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The Citizens Rights Movement [CRM] opined that the recurring time-outs the government awards itself may be suitable for a basketball game, but that this government is playing with our lives. The CRM called on Labor Party leaders to try to set up an alternative government that will work to further peace without any tricks.

Arens Requests 'Detailed Proposal' From Baker

TA0710051989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The U.S. Administration is contemplating dispatching an official from Washington to talk to the parties in a bid to bring about a coordination of positions. The administration is also awaiting the next Inner Cabinet debate on Israel's position on ways to implement the idea of elections in the territories.

Our Washington correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami says that yesterday, after the Inner Cabinet's session, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens asked his counterpart James Baker to transmit to Israel a detailed proposal for joint coordination with Egypt on the composition of the Palestinian delegation in advance of the dialogue on the implementation of elections in the territories.

Arens Submits Minutes to Inner Cabinet

TA0610103589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] This morning Foreign Minister Moshe Arens submitted to the Inner Cabinet the minutes of two meetings he held with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker during his visit to the United States. One of these meetings was also attended by Egypt's Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid.

Our political affairs correspondent Arye Golan reports that the minutes show plainly that Secretary Baker proposed that the United States, Egypt, and Israel come to the meeting with an agreed list of Palestinian delegates' names.

Minister Arens also submitted a document to the Inner Cabinet detailing the contents of a news conference held by Secretary Baker on 2 October following the White House meeting between Presidents Bush and Mubarak. In that news conference, Baker was asked whether the United States was proposing an Israeli-Egyptian committee to attempt to promote a dialogue with Palestinians. He replied that the proposal involved a possibility that the three countries would define the Palestinian delegation to a dialogue with Israel, thereby allowing Israel to give its stamp of approval to the Palestinian representation.

Arens Discusses Baker, Mubarak Proposals

TA0710100589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0905 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by 'Adi Talmor and Goni Mardor on 6 October—recorded]

[Text] [Talmor] Shalom, sir.

[Arens] Shalom.

[Talmor] Your fellow Inner Cabinet member, Shim'on Peres, contradicted what you said, claiming that there is no such thing as a Baker initiative. Is that so?

[Arens] He knows very well that it exists. I read him excerpts of the minutes of my conversation with Baker and 'Abd-al-Majid. He asked us to obtain the U.S. proposal in writing and was not prepared to wait today for the proposal to arrive in writing—as he demanded—insisting instead that the Alignment's proposal be voted on. But that proposal is actually tantamount to suggesting that we meet with a PLO delegation. I can only explain it as having stemmed from the narrowest partisan considerations, oblivious of any concern for the promotion of the peace process.

[Mardor] Minister Arens, Minister Peres says that in fact there is no difference between the Mubarak proposal and the Baker proposal. What do you think is the difference?

[Arens] Well, I have just heard him contend that there is no such thing as a Baker proposal, whereas now he claims that there is no difference between the Baker and the Peres [as heard] proposals. Is that not so?

[Mardor] He said both these things.

[Arens] He said them, but it turns out that neither statement is correct.

[Talmor] He also maintained that you failed to perceive the minute distinctions in Baker's remarks.

[Arens] But since he said there is no such proposal, then there is nothing to understand if no proposal exists, am I correct?

[Mardor] Where do you think the difference lies? How is the Baker proposal different, and what makes it potentially more acceptable to the Inner Cabinet?

[Arens] The U.S. proposal was for a Palestinian delegation to be formed following an agreement between the United States, Egypt, and Israel. Between that and the Alignment's list, a wide gap exists between meeting with a PLO delegation and meeting a Palestinian delegation that would be acceptable to us as well.

[Mardor] Minister Arens, why do you think that the Palestinians—whoever they are—would agree to have a delegation formed without them having any say in this process?

[Arens] I think that if a consensus is reached between the United States, Egypt, and Israel, such a thing can definitely be accepted. One must not forget that we are talking about a delegation not for negotiations, but one with which we will conclude the election modalities, while negotiations will be conducted with people who will be elected in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District when elections are held.

[Mardor] But do these Palestinians have no say in the composition of the delegation?

[Arens] They will have something to say in the negotiations after they are elected. That, after all, is the most important thing.

[Talmor] Your remarks, Mr Arens, lead us to understand that in the next few days, or perhaps in the next few weeks, you and the prime minister will submit an alternative proposal to the Alignment's suggestion—which was rejected—to the Inner Cabinet.

[Arens] That may well be true.

[Talmor] Is there no such intention?

[Arens] That is possible, but it depends on what turn things take. My impression is that instead of promoting the peace process, the Alignment is interested in using this opportunity to dissolve the coalition.

[Mardor] You are saying, Mr Arens, that the Alignment is prepared to bring about the dissolution of the Cabinet. Perhaps it would be better to do that, if indeed the differences of opinion are so vast?

[Arens] If there are substantial differences of opinion, then certainly the Cabinet cannot function. In this case, I believe that it is the Israeli interest, spanning all the parties, to propose that the Palestinian delegation with which we will meet to discuss arrangements for the election will not be a PLO delegation. There should have been no deep differences of opinion on this matter.

[Talmor] Should you and the prime minister decide against bringing an alternative proposal to the Inner Cabinet, what is the political scenario you envision? Is there any chance that we will implement the Israeli Government's peace plan?

[Arens] If the Alignment takes action to dissolve the Cabinet, this could only hamper the peace process, and I believe it is aware of that.

[Mardor] Minister Arens, within your party, the Likud, there are also some people who oppose the so-called Baker initiative. They are known as the ministers who insist on the braces.

[Arens] I have not heard these voices.

[Mardor] We carried them today, they objected to the initiative.

[Arens] What did they say?

[Mardor] They opposed both the Alignment initiative and the Baker initiative, as you presented it before the Inner Cabinet.

[Arens] I provided these details, and they are available.

[Talmor] From interviews with the prime minister and Vice Prime Minister Peres a week ago, we assumed that efforts would be made during the week to reach some agreed-upon formula that would be acceptable to both the Alignment and the Likud. Why was no such effort made, and is there a chance that such a process would take place sometime in the future?

[Arens] I am convinced that the Alignment never meant to make such an effort. As I told you, I read out the U.S. proposal, as expressed in my conversation with Mr Baker—which was also attended by Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Majid—together with his request that we address the offer and give him an answer. The Alignment wanted to see the written version of the proposal, but this morning showed no willingness to wait for this, insisting instead that its proposal be put to the vote.

[Mardor] Do you think that the proposal will arrive soon?

[Arens] I hope so. I am convinced that the fact that the Alignment put its proposal to the vote in the Inner Cabinet today did not make things any easier for Secretary Baker.

[Mardor] Thank you very much, Minister Moshe Arens.

[Arens] Thank you very much.

Shahal Says Labor Would Consider U.S. Proposal

TA0810072189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal by Me'ir Einstein—live]

[Text] [Einstein] Good morning, Minister Shahal.

[Shahal] A very good morning to you too.

[Einstein] What is the meaning and logic behind the Alignment move?

[Shahal] The meaning is that even on the eve of Yom Kippur, Minister Arens makes remarks which are not precise in that they do not reflect what really happened in the Inner Cabinet. It is all very simple and easy, and I simply could not believe what I heard this morning [reference to Arens remarks on the Alignment refusal to wait for a written U.S. proposal]: There was no request from either the prime minister or the foreign minister to postpone the vote because of a U.S. proposal.

[Einstein] But from the information we have obtained from the Inner Cabinet meeting, in which you also participated—reporters do not participate in these meetings—the foreign minister entreated, and according to what he said on Friday, he even begged you not to submit your proposal for a vote.

[Shahal] That is not true. I hope someone will repent and beg forgiveness in his Yom Kippur prayers. We repeatedly asked the foreign minister one question: whether he was stating that there was a U.S. proposal. Colleagues in the Inner Cabinet told him that if he was announcing that there was a U.S. proposal, perhaps it would be worth waiting for, being such a far-reaching proposal.

[Einstein] Yes, indeed, the question is why you did not wait a few days until...

[Shahal, interrupting] But no one spoke of a few days! This is the first I have heard of it. Minister Arens did not mention anything about a few days. Look, there are two levels of argument: On the present level, the argument has been turned into a conflict between the parties, while what we are facing is a political problem concerning the entire country. If parties engage in arguments without telling the truth, by distorting and garbling facts, then I do not know what to say. I am speechless because the people concerned are placed at the highest level of our civil service. This must not happen. We did not submit our proposal in order to speak with the PLO; in fact, our proposal speaks of the opposite—of avoiding talks with the PLO.

[Einstein] Mr Shahal, what did you achieve by submitting your proposal? The results—that ubiquitous tie in the Inner Cabinet—were known in advance. Did you really expect to obtain a majority?

[Shahal] All the discussion of this has turned a very central problem into what appears to be bickering between the two parties. Israel has a government in which two elements united in order to achieve progress in the political sphere. I participated in the negotiations for the establishment of that government, and I know that we agreed to propose elections in the territories as part of the phased solution the government endorsed on 14 May 1989. This initiative requires a Palestinian partner for talks. The Egyptian president, after consultations with the United States, raised a concrete proposal. A serious government wanting to address the issue should make a reply to that.

I would now like to ask our Likud partners, both Mr Shamir and Mr Arens: Forget the proposals and the votes; with whom do we propose to talk about the political initiative? Do they have any alternative suggestion whatsoever for ways to attain talks with Palestinians, thereby creating a factor that would dismiss the PLO? The State of Israel is now in a situation in which it is required to provide a solution. What is this? An interparty argument?

[Einstein] To conclude, Mr Shahal: Does the Alignment intend to secede from the government, or are you perhaps still waiting for a proposal that may arrive from Washington and break the stalemate?

[Shahal] Certainly, if the U.S. proposal exists—a fact which we have not heard the foreign minister state explicitly to this very moment... [changes thought] The foreign minister had no minutes. He had attended meetings, the minutes of which he had to request from a U.S. official. If an American proposal is received, we will certainly consider it out of our overall concern for the interests of the state, these interests being the launching of the political initiative.

[Einstein] And if no American proposal is received, will your party leave?

[Shahal] It should be remembered that this government was established for the sake of the political initiative. If the Likud foils that, there is no justification for the continued existence of the government. The government will no longer have any basis.

[Einstein] Thank you very much, Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal.

Ya'aqobi Says Labor Wants Process To Continue

TA0810132789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The Likud heads are convinced that the Alignment has no option for the establishment of a narrow-based government. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch reports that this statement was published in the wake of contacts held in the past 2 days between Likud leaders and representatives of the religious parties.

Minister Gad Ya'aqobi says that the Labor Party will allow the prime minister some time, after it has been learned that the United States will take action to arrange a meeting between a Palestinian and an Israeli delegation. In an interview with the Voice of Israel today, he said that at present his party is not concerned with the possibility of seceding from the government, but rather with the ways to continue the political process in order to avoid missing a historic chance. He stressed that if no breakthrough occurs enabling the process to continue toward a settlement, the continued existence of the national unity government will have no justification.

Minister Ehud Olmert has accused the Alignment ministers of irresponsibility in having submitted the Mubarak initiative for a vote in the Inner Cabinet on Friday. According to him, this was no coincidence, but rather part of a political move. Minister Olmert expressed concern that U.S. Secretary of State Baker may now change the contents of the proposal he had intended to send to Israel.

Shamir Expects Written Version of Baker Proposal

TA0610143889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in today's Inner Cabinet session, after the Alignment's motion had been voted down, that the Israeli peace initiative is alive, valid, and binding on all members of the government. Shamir asserted that the government will continue to promote the initiative. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that Shamir, addressing the U.S. proposal in the Inner Cabinet, said that so far there has been no formal written U.S. proposal regarding the idea of tripartite Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. consultations. Judging from several remarks made by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, however, such a document may be in the works, he said.

Mr Shamir pointed out that the Inner Cabinet members had requested that Mr Baker's proposal be submitted in writing, and that he indeed expects such a proposal to arrive.

As for the Alignment's motion, the prime minister said that three of its four clauses contravene the Israeli peace initiative, and that what it actually suggested was a meeting with the PLO. Shamir claimed that were Israel to follow that path, it would lead to a Palestinian state. Prime Minister Shamir said that if someone has come to the conclusion that progress is impossible without the PLO, then public decency demands them to stand up and state their position clearly. The Alignment has not done so, and in the prime minister's view, this behavior is a dishonest pretense.

Summing up the issue at the Inner Cabinet session, the prime minister said that we must persevere in our path, attempt to implement our initiative, and beware of false shortcuts that lead over a precipice.

Beilin Warns Against American Interference

TA0810061589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] Deputy Finance Minister Yosi Beilin last night warned the U.S. not to interfere in internal Israeli affairs by making proposals that are not acceptable to Egypt and the Palestinians. "If the U.S. does not have a formula which is acceptable to Egypt and the Palestinians, and seeks only to placate the Likud—this will be gross interference in Israel's internal affairs," Beilin told THE JERUSALEM POST.

Beilin also lambasted possible U.S. intentions to send an emissary to the area "whose only purpose would be to give artificial first-aid to the national unity government."

Shamir Responds to Remarks

TA1010094589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office last night described Deputy Finance Minister Yosi Beilin's warning to the U.S. about its possible peace proposals as "the gravest statement ever made against the national unity government by one of its members."

Prime Minister Shamir expressed "astonishment" at Beilin's remarks, and he will "consider what steps to take against such statements, which are beyond the acceptable," an official in the Prime Minister's Office said.

Beilin was quoted in THE JERUSALEM POST on Sunday as saying that any U.S. proposal unacceptable to Egypt and the Palestinians would only be meant to placate the Likud and would constitute "gross interference" in Israel's internal affairs.

Beilin's admonition constituted "hutzpa on the part of a junior deputy minister," the official maintained.

Likud Sees 'Difficulties' in Baker Proposal

TA1010071289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Oct 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by Menahem Shalev, Dan Petreanu, and Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shamir has asked U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to amend some clauses in the administration's proposals on the formation of a Palestinian delegation, sources in Jerusalem said last night.

Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens held a short meeting Sunday immediately after Baker's suggestions reached Jerusalem.

Contrary to the Likud's expectations, the Baker proposal falls short of offering Israel a strict veto over the makeup of a Palestinian delegation, saying only that it should be "satisfactory" to Jerusalem.

The head of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff, Dennis Ross, may come to the Middle East in the next few days to discuss Baker's suggestions, sources said last night.

Baker proposed a meeting within two weeks in Washington between Arens, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismat 'Adb-al-Majid and himself, as Arens reported in the inner cabinet sessions last week.

Baker's proposal also notes that in the suggested Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, the Palestinians will be able to make suggestions on the Israeli peace initiative, which Labour sources said last night was more open-ended than the proposal of Egyptian President Mubarak, which limits the Palestinian agenda to 10 conditions.

The sources said that the Baker proposal notes that it is aimed at achieving a meeting between Israeli and Palestinian delegations, in Cairo, to discuss elections in the territories in accordance with the government's initiative. Acceptance of the suggestion for a trilateral meeting, signifies acceptance of the need for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue before the elections, the proposal notes.

Likud sources last night acknowledged that Baker's formula "presents difficulties" and sources in Arens's bureau blamed the Labour Party for differences between the final form of Baker's proposal, as received Sunday, and the formula he offered during Arens's meetings with Baker in the U.S. last week.

At that time, Baker's proposals, as formulated by Arens, called for a Palestinian delegation which would be "determined by mutual agreement."

The Likud sources charged Labour, and specifically Vice Premier Peres, with "collusion" with Egypt in the written formulation of the Egyptian initiative, which was submitted to the Labour ministers' meeting last Wednesday by Egyptian Ambassador Muhammad Basyuni.

Even the Americans did not know of this Egyptian formulation, the sources said.

The Likud charged that it was this secret agreement with Egypt which compelled Labour to bring its proposal to the cabinet, and that it was the cabinet's "inevitable" rejection of the Mubarak offer which caused Baker to stray from his original formulation.

Officials in Jerusalem said last night that Shamir and Arens will maintain contacts with the Americans on the proposal, and predicted that the Likud's position on the matter would not be determined before Shamir's scheduled trip to Washington in the middle of next month.

The officials said that Baker's proposal has not yet been accepted by Cairo, but that Cairo must have given the administration a green light to try them out on Israel. [passage omitted]

Sources said that following Friday's inner cabinet meeting, which voted 6-6 and therefore rejected Labour's proposal to accept the Mubarak initiative, Shamir conveyed a message to the U.S. administration indicating his wish to keep the peace process alive.

Shamir told Baker, through Arens, that if an American proposal had been on the inner cabinet table there would have been no Labour proposal to reject.

Labour sources said they were satisfied with the American proposal. [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 10 October, in a similar report on pages 1 and 13 by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, Washington-based correspondent Rami Tal, and Orli Azulay-Katz, adds: "On the eve of Yom Kippur, the Labor Party leaders held a consultation in which they decided to wait and see whether the tripartite meeting in the United States between the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel would indeed take place. Only after that will the Labor Party Central Committee be convened to discuss the possible secession from the government."]

Sources in Jerusalem said that the tabling of Baker's suggestions contradicts some assessments that the U.S. was reluctant to "dirty its hands" in active Midle East diplomacy.

The sources noted that one element driving Baker may be internal criticism levelled at the administration in recent days for its passivity in connection with last week's aborted coup in Panama. The administration, the sources said, does not want to be perceived as overly passive.

Baker's proposals are already being opposed by Shamir's internal opposition in the Likud—Ministers David Levi, Ari'el Sharon and Yitzhaq Moda'i. The three intend to launch their public campaign against the proposal at an informal Likud central committee meeting tomorrow.

Moda'i told THE POST yesterday that the three would "oppose the Baker idea as well because it is unclear where it is meant to lead us."

Moda'i and his colleagues will be supported by the Eretz Yisra'el Front, of about 30 right-wing MKs [Knesset members], including about 20 from the Likud.

But Labour leaders were suggesting that they hoped the U.S. would step in.

Labour decided to go ahead with a clearly doomed vote in the inner cabinet last week because, in the words of one minister, "creating an atmosphere of crisis is perhaps a necessary step, a catalyst, to spur the other parties, especially the Americans, into greater involvement."

Meanwhile, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, on Sunday, invited U.S. State Department envoy Dennis Ross to visit Tunis for talks with the PLO.

Shamir Links No PLO Role to U.S. Proposal

TA1010072789 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Oct 89 p 1

[Report on an "exclusive" interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by party affairs correspondent Ilan Shehori "last night"; place not given]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will not accept the new American proposals in advance. Only if the Americans guarantee that the PLO will have no role whatsoever in the composition of the Palestinian delegation will he submit the proposals to the Inner Cabinet for a decision.

Shamir made these remarks in an exclusive interview with HA'ARETZ last night, following the political consultation he held at his home with several members of his circle, including Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Justice Minister Dan Meridor. The prime minister called for the consultation in the wake of a message received from U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

The prime minister denounced the braces ministers—David Levi, Ari'el Sharon, and Yitzhaq Moda'i—who act against him, terming their activities impertinent and detrimental to the Likud. As for the Labor Party, Shamir urged it to finally announce to the nation, the Knesset, or the government whether it believes that progress toward peace in our region is impossible without negotiations with the PLO.

Concerning the U.S. initiative, Shamir said: "The United States is very interested in promoting our peace initiative. They have promised their assistance, and they truly want to help. Peace in our region also lies in the interests of the United States, and I am grateful for this. This does not mean that we must endorse all they conceive and advise. Their desire to help with the implementation of our initiative is, however, genuine."

According to Shamir, the Americans—contrary to the claims of the Labor Party—do not view the Inner Cabinet decision as the death sentence for the government's peace initiative. He said that the messages received from the United States in recent days clearly state that the Americans believe that the Israeli Government's political initiative remains valid.

The prime minister added that he is fully determined not to allow the PLO any contact with either the Palestinian delegation or the Palestinian elements with whom the Israeli Government will hold talks. "We will not allow—neither now nor in the future—the delegation to be appointed by the PLO. If it is so appointed, we will conduct no negotiations with it. The Egyptian initiative speaks of a delegation to be composed by the PLO; this is contrary to the government guidelines."

Shamir had much criticism regarding the Labor Party's stand on the Egyptian initiative: "If someone has reached the conclusion that no progress can be made without the PLO, let him come to the people of Israel, let him come to the government, and let him come to the Knesset and say: Let us amend the initiative, change the government's guidelines, and decide on negotiations with the PLO. I would oppose it, but I would also understand such a stand. It cannot, however, be done deviously yet, at the same time, for all to see."

According to the prime minister, he is working to secure the formulation of a new American initiative in order to accelerate the promotion of the peace initiative. Shamir said that he is pleased with the American approach, stressing that if such an initiative is crystallized, he will submit it to the Inner Cabinet for discussion and decision.

Survey Shows Inclusion of Deportees Opposed

TA0810113089 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Oct 89 p A1

[Text] The majority of the public opposes allowing Palestinians who were deported from the territories to participate in talks. The above emerges from a Teleseqer poll commissioned by MA'ARIV which gauged the public's views on the issue of talks with the Palestinians and President Mubarak. Below are the questions and the breakdown of the responses:

a. Do you think Israel should accept or reject the proposal that the Palestinian delegation to the talks also include several Palestinians who were expelled from the territories?

Accept—37.4 percent
Reject—45.5 percent
No opinion—17.1 percent

b. Some people contend that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has offended Israel and Israelis in various expressions and interviews he granted recently. Do you share this view or not?

Agree—39.8 percent
Disagree—35.4 percent
No opinion—24.8 percent

The poll was conducted on 3 and 4 October by telephone from Teleseqer's polling center. It included a statewide cross section of 500 men and women 18 years or older.

Ben-Aharon Says PLO Must Be Kept From Talks

TA1010075789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, by Mikha Friedman and Ya'el Dan—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good morning, sir.

[Ben-Aharon] Good morning.

[Friedman] U.S. Secretary of State Baker has officially notified Israel that the composition of the Palestinian delegation to preliminary talks about elections in the territories would be determined through the agreement of the sides. Is this a satisfactory proposal, one which could be accepted by all parts of the Israeli Government?

[Ben-Aharon] Well, it may involve lengthy and exhaustive negotiations. What we must prevent is that the delegates sitting on the other side of the table in this dialogue will be PLO members, appointed by the PLO or controlled by it.

[Friedman] The agreement of all the sides that is necessary for the appointment of the delegation in effect eliminates the possibility of a Palestinian delegation being appointed without our approval. Is this true?

[Ben-Aharon] We definitely believe that it is possible to appoint a delegation that does not include PLO men. If there are no such people, this initiative cannot materialize. Our Egyptian neighbors and the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el must understand that we will not talk to the PLO, and if they think that we will fall for the subterfuge entailed in the so-called Mubarak initiative—in which he talks about Palestinians, but he specifically says that the intention is for the PLO to appoint, control, order, and issue directives to the delegation—they must know we cannot be part of such a move.

[Friedman] Do you think Baker has been persuaded by this Israeli position and that this is definitely reflected in the message he relayed to Arens over the phone?

[Ben-Aharon] I think it is now becoming clear to the United States that in spite of the dialogue it launched with the PLO in December 1988, and in spite of what the Egyptians tell us—that nothing is possible without the PLO—we will not proceed with the PLO. Once this idea is dropped I think we will be able to make progress.

[Friedman] Consequently, within 2 weeks or perhaps earlier, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens will sit together with his Egyptian counterpart and Baker in the United States in a bid to budge the negotiations wagon, which is quite stuck.

[Ben-Aharon] This notion was raised during Arens' talks in the United States in the last 2 weeks. At that time the idea was raised that prior to the meeting with the Arab Palestinian delegation, there could be consultations among the governments. In view of the outcome of the Inner Cabinet vote, the Israeli Government is once again trying to realize the notion of consultations among the governments in a bid to advance our political initiative, without resorting to a meeting with the PLO.

[Dan] The question is whether all parts of the Likud will let such a move go through.

[Ben-Aharon] To the best of my knowledge, the entire Likud is committed to the government initiative, which says that talks would be held with a Palestinian delegation, not yet an elected one, in order to prepare the elections. Once the authoritative and representative delegation has been elected, autonomy would be set up, and negotiations would be held on the permanent status after it has succeeded....

[Dan, interrupting] My question pertains to the ministers who authored the braces. They are not thrilled about such an Egyptian-Israeli meeting.

[Ben-Aharon] I am not aware of that, but as far as these ministers are concerned, I propose that you ask them. I am talking about the peace process.

[Friedman] I suppose you have studied the explicit remarks made by Baker to Arens, making a tripartite meeting in Washington conditional on an a priori Israeli pledge to ultimately confer with a Palestinian delegation in Cairo.

[Ben-Aharon] I know of no such condition, which is also inconceivable. What is conceivable is that in the wake of the consultations, if they culminate in success, we will move on to the clause in the Israeli initiative on holding elections. As I mentioned earlier, this would be preceded by a brief period of consultations with elements representing the Arabs about the technical aspects of implementing the elections plan—the type of elections, who may vote, what the rules will be. We discussed these matters during the autonomy negotiations, but we must now go back to them in order to implement the plan in the most satisfactory and efficient manner.

[Friedman] Finally, Mr Ben-Aharon, I would like to hear your assessment of the situation. One day after Yom Kippur and following the conversation between Baker and Arens, is the initiative in better condition than before?

[Ben-Aharon] I would not like to give it marks. I would say the following: The illusions surrounding this initiative had to be shattered. The illusion created by the United States and Egypt—not to the same degree—was that under cover of the initiative we would agree to take part in a process that would ultimately lead to contacts with the PLO and perhaps, further down the road, to the establishment of an Arab Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. This notion had to be struck off the agenda and everyone had to be *made to understand that* we would never agree to that, and that the initiative would be stuck unless everybody understood that the PLO cannot be a party to the process.

[Friedman] Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, thank you very much.

[Ben-Aharon] Thank you and shalom.

Basyuni Says Palestinians Must Choose Delegates

TA0810121789 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Egypt has rejected the proposal the Likud attributes to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Cairo does not regard Israel's readiness to adopt this proposal as a positive response to Egypt's invitation for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. This fact, which was explained in very clear terms to the senior political echelon in Jerusalem late last week, reduces the options for finding a compromise formula extricating the government from the crisis.

Although the Egyptians made it plain on several occasions that Israel could participate in the process of composing the Palestinian delegation, and would even enjoy veto rights, they emphasized that they would be unable to accept a public government statement that Israel and the United States, with the consent of Egypt, would jointly determine the composition of the delegation. Foreign Minister Moshe Arens attributed this version to Secretary Baker, and he asked Baker to transmit it in writing.

Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni told HA'ARETZ yesterday that only the Palestinians can propose the names of their representatives for talks with Israel, and they can do that through coordination with Egypt. "President Mubarak has not submitted any list to the Americans, and we will not submit any such list. Israel can participate in consultations on the names, but cannot make a final decision on them or play a role in consolidating the delegation," said Basyuni. He queried: "Have you ever heard of another case in history in which someone agreed to let another party decide for it who would represent it?"

Basyuni added: "Consultations may be held, but the only ones who will select the names will be the Palestinians." He claimed that Egypt's role in the process is in assisting and coordinating in a bid to make a dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians possible, but it cannot supplant such a dialogue.

Basyuni pointed out that Egypt believes that the delegation should include Palestinian exiles as well as delegates from the territories. Expatriates will also be included since "they are part of the population of the territories. A case in point is Israel's consent to let one of them return in the early 1980's."

Frayj Says Israel Must Not Select Delegation

TA1010054189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has invited Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid to Washington for consultations. Our reporter Jack Katzenell says Baker has been in touch with Arens and 'Abd-al-Majid in an effort to keep the peace process going, in the wake of last Friday's vote in the Inner Cabinet. The Inner Cabinet rejected the Labor Party proposal to accept an invitation by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak for a meeting of Israeli and Palestinian delegations in Cairo.

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj reacted to the reports, saying that Israel must not have the right to choose the Palestinians on the delegation to negotiate with Israel.

[Begin Frayj recording] Well, I am glad to hear that the Americans are getting more active to keep the peace process alive. Let us hope and pray that the meetings between Secretary Baker, Mr Arens, and Mr 'Abd-al-Majid, when they go to Washington within 2 weeks, will produce positive results.

But I must stress one thing: Israel cannot select and nominate the Palestinian delegation. This is something every Israeli has to understand. One thing all Israelis, including the prime minister ar J everyone else, have to understand: They cannot select and choose, or nominate, or dictate to the Palestinians the names of the Palestinian delegates. If the Palestinian delegation is not fully supported by the PLO and by the Palestinians everywhere, then this is not a delegation. If Israel wants peace, then she has to give us our freedom to choose our own delegates. [end recording]

'Abd-Rabbuh Insists on 'Open Agenda' in Talks

TA0510122789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Oct 89 p 2

[Report on interview with Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee, by Walter Ruby on 4 October in New York]

[Text] United Nations—The PLO's chief representative in its talks with the U.S. insisted yesterday on an "open agenda" at the proposed Israeli-Palestinian conference in Cairo.

Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh added that any Israeli attempt to limit the discussion to modalities of holding elections in the occupied territories would "undermine the whole process."

In an interview with THE JERUSALEM POST, 'Abd-Rabbuh, who is attending the opening session of the 44th General Assembly, said the Palestinian delegation which meets the Israelis would have to be "authorized" by the PLO.

With an eye on the Israeli cabinet meeting scheduled today, 'Abd-Rabbuh warned that the only alternative to the start of the talks is an "escalation of the confrontation." If the meetings do not materialize, he added, "the situation will be flammable and the possibility of explosion will be much higher."

But 'Abd-Rabbuh stressed that the PLO will not retreat from its policy of mutual recognition between Israel and a Palestinian state, even in the event Israel rejects the meetings and the peace plan put forward by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. "We know that some extremist forces in Israel will welcome the day the PLO will leave that policy," he said.

Regarding plans for Yasir 'Arafat to address the UN, 'Abd-Rabbuh said the PLO is "thinking seriously" about doing this at the end of November. The final decision on an 'Arafat visit has not yet been made, but the PLO does not believe "there will be any obstacles," he said.

'Abd-Rabbuh, who was born in 1945 in Yafo, is a leading member of Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. A member of the PLO's 15-member Executive Committee since 1971, he emerged as one of the most influential PLO figures after being appointed by 'Arafat to lead the PLO's talks in Tunis with U.S. Ambassador to Tunisia Robert Pelletreau. 'Abd-Rabbuh's arrival here was several days late, after the U.S. State Department delayed granting him a visa.

'Abd-Rabbuh said he believes Prime Minister Shamir's election proposal is part of a longstanding Israeli "dream of creating an alternative leadership" to the PLO.

"The Israeli leadership—both Labour and Likud—knows very well that the whole process is going with the PLO and through the PLO. (They know that) all the talks, consultations and negotiations going on now—direct or indirect—are done with the PLO leadership.

"We will not discuss PLO participation in the process, because the PLO is and will be participating in all stages of the process," he emphasized.

Asked about Mubarak's statement to Finance Minister Shim'on Peres last week that the Palestinian delegation to talks with Israel would negotiate on the basis of Mubarak's 10 points, 'Abd-Rabbuh said:

"Mubarak said to come to Cairo without preconditions.... The 10 points were only to facilitate dialogue. (Mubarak) didn't demand from any side to accept these or any other points. The Palestinian peace initiative is based on the principle of two states for two nations, mutual recognition, security guarantees... for all, including Israel, land for peace, and complete (Israeli) withdrawal from the land occupied since 1967."

Asked if the PLO would allow Palestinians to negotiate with Israel without formal authorization, thus allowing Israeli leaders to claim they were not talking to the PLO, 'Abd-Rabbuh replied, "Major issues cannot be solved through small tricks."

But why then is he not insisting that Yasir 'Arafat head the Palestinian delegation? He answered that the PLO "welcomes" a meeting without formal PLO involvement, adding, "We believe that the time when 'Arafat will be at the table is not so far off."

Asked if the radical DFLP and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine might step up armed attacks against Israel in the coming months if Israel turns down the proposed dialogue, 'Abd-Rabbuh claimed that no PLO faction has been trying to infiltrate Israel recently.

But he was ambiguous about the future, saying that "such incidents might occur from time to time until (all parties) have secure borders." He also said the intifadah cannot be ended or temporarily suspended until the occupation ends.

Likud Calls on Labor To Stop 'Hysteria'

TA0710182689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The Likud has called on the Labor Party to stop what it terms the Labor Party's hysteria surrounding the Inner Cabinet decision. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch reports that the Likud, in an official communique, called on the leaders of the Labor Party to stop bashing their heads against the wall, while involving the country in negotiations with the PLO. Instead, the communique urged Labor leaders to concentrate on furthering the Israeli peace initiative on the basis of a consensus between the Labor Party and the Likud.

Sinyurah Warns Situation Might Lead to War

TA0810052889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Palestinian activist Hanna Sinyurah says Israel's rejection of the Egyptian 10-point plan has created a situation which could deteriorate into all-out war between Israel and the Arab states. Sinyurah spoke to reporter Shlomo Berger:

[Begin recording] [Berger] Hanna Sinyurah says Israel's decision on the Mubarak plan is a blow to peace.

[Sinyurah] The rejection by the Israeli Government of the Mubarak 10 points means that today there is no peace process for discussion by the parties to the conflict. That means that the situation is at an impasse and the blame is squarely today being pointed to the Likud Party for rejecting a political opening.

[Berger] Sinyurah says: We are now at a crossroads.

[Sinyurah] Either the people of Israel decide to take the course of peace, to fight for peace, or allow the situation to stagnate; that means continued confrontation, more casualties, more suffering for all us living in this region.

and, at the same time, worsening the situation that eventually it would lead to open warfare between the Arab countries and the State of Israel.

[Berger] Sinyurah called on the United States to take a more active role in the peace process to prevent the region from sliding toward a major confrontation. [end recording]

Peres To Visit Moscow at End of October

TA0810061189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Barring urgent political developments here, Vice Premier Shim'on Peres is expected to go to Moscow during the last week of this month, sources in Jerusalem said last night.

Efforts are currently under way to arrange a meeting for Peres with both Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry statement said on Friday that Peres had been invited to the Soviet Union as a guest of the Soviet Peace Committee, and not as an official guest. Nonetheless, Peres's aides are hopeful that meetings with Soviet leaders will take place.

Mosad Squad in Europe Targets Intifadah Leaders

JN0610161989 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 4 Oct 89 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that an Israeli Mosad team bearing Arabic names and counterfeit Arab passports has recently arrived in some European countries on a mission to pursue a number of Palestinians directly linked to the Palestinian intifadah and activity in the occupied Arab territories. Palestinian security sources told AL-ITTIHAD that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has recently been informed of this development by an Arab state. Arafat was told that a European country's security department in charge of collecting information about foreigners has warned another European country that new Mosad groups have begun to arrive in the country to pursue and assassinate Palestinian personalities.

Army Denies Diplomats Entrance Into Bayt Sahur

TA0610103689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] This morning, the army stopped a group of Western diplomats at the outskirts of Bethlehem and denied them entrance into the city. The group, which included the consuls in Jerusalem of Sweden, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Greece, France, and Britain, intended to visit Bayt Sahur, the town where a tax revolt has been declared, and inspect the situation there.

Our correspondent in the territories, 'Ido Shargil, reports that the diplomats left the place a short while ago.

Official army sources pointed out that the Bayt Sahur district has been pronounced a closed military area in order to allow the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] to carry out its tasks, including tax collection.

Shomron on Intifadah, Training, Syrian Peril

TA0910210389 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Oct 89

["Special" Yom Kippur interview with Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, chief of the General Staff, by military affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky during a tour of south Lebanon and a formation exercise in southern Israel; date not given—videorecorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Shlonsky] In recent interviews you have persisted in stating that in the long range, history will prove that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has dealt correctly with the intifadah—that its conduct versus the population, and the way it has carried out orders, has been correct. What did you mean?

[Shomron] An army, or military power, is not an end in itself. Military power is a means for attaining goals. Incorrect use of that power, or excessive use where it is not required, will eventually either undermine the goal, or exact a heavy, perhaps too heavy price in payment for the achievement of the goals.

Those who regard this intifadah as a war similar to wars against ordinary armies may ask the question: Why are you not using all your force? Those who understand the intifadah's goals and capabilities—which lie in the sphere of exerting pressure through public opinion, both in the world and Israel—realize that uncontrolled army actions will serve merely to reinforce our weak points. Therefore, it was obvious to us from the outset that this struggle is not about power.

Of course, we have the power; there is no doubt about that. We do not have to prove our power, because naturally we are strong; all the power lies on our side. The question is what the final goals are, and how you achieve them. In my opinion, when the comprehensive overview is weighed in the future, it will be understood that this army, contrary to other armies, acted with both understanding and sensitivity. As a result of taking the right approach, I believe Israel will achieve its goals. In my opinion, the main goal is not to give up on our vital interests.

[Shlonsky] If all you say is correct, how do you explain the fact that after almost 2 years of the intifadah it keeps on as strongly as ever? There may be other aspects to the problem, but the intifadah continues.

[Shomron] I do not know what you mean by as strongly as ever. There is no doubt that this kind of popular uprising, wherever it occurs, stems from motivations

which cannot be eradicated in one move. It is therefore clear that the process has to be a long one.

[Shlonsky] Is it possible that the solution is not just military, that it has to be political too; and that you simply abstain from touching on that aspect of solving the problem of the uprising?

[Shomron] Generally speaking, there is no such thing as a military solution. I have always said that the army is an instrument; the solution is certainly not military. This, however, is not the problem. The question is whether the army is carrying out its duties and tasks, because any deviation from this narrow sphere of army tasks involves the army in a very sensitive political argument, which is perhaps the most sensitive issue in Israel at present. I believe it is wrong to engage in such an argument, because it will only weaken the army.

[Shlonsky] Can this be avoided?

[Shomron] I think the IDF has so far managed to avoid it quite well. [passage omitted]

[Shlonsky] It has been asserted for some time that the IDF is continuing normal training despite the intifadah. Nevertheless, in the first year of the intifadah we heard about problems in the training of reserves. Now there seem to be more problems with the training of regular forces, a good portion of which are stationed in the territories. Does this not impair the army's preparedness for war?

[Shomron] There is no doubt that our investment in manpower, resources, time, and energy comes at the expense of other things. I would like, however, to put the problem in the right proportion: True, in the first year, the reserves' training suffered. This year, while we are repaying the reserves, the regular troops are suffering. Next year the regular army will again receive more training. I want to state that all in all, the training the soldiers receive is such that the aspects of our preparedness for war and of building the future army are not overlooked. I do believe we have a good army, which we train in maneuvers much more complex and difficult than before. [passage omitted]

There is no doubt, the visible enemy is Syria. Syria has built a large army. Its basic dogma states that power is the answer in our region. I would say the combination of their policy and a large army means they are merely waiting for the right opportunity. That is why Syria is the obvious enemy.

At the same time, we must not forget Iraq, which has a very large Army, and which has been relieved of the Gulf war. I would say, therefore, that the potential long-range danger lies in the possibility of an eastern coalition. In the foreseeable future, however, I would say Syria is the enemy.

[Shlonsky] What has happened in Syria in the recent years that should worry us?

[Shomron] I would not say it should worry us. We have been living with the hazards for many years, and we will continue living with them. At the same time, we will succeed in developing a great army and creating a fine country. We should not worry. We should keep our eyes open and be ready, because Syria is purchasing modern weapons.

[Shlonsky] Such as?

[Shomron] Modern tanks, aircraft—there has been an improvement in almost every sphere. They have not improved to the next highest level, however, with the possible exception of surface-to-surface missiles.

[Shlonsky] Such as the SS-23, for example?

[Shomron] I do not think they have those, but even without them, Syria has long-range missiles. They also have the ability to manufacture chemical warheads, which are no doubt a new kind of weapon in this region.

[Shlonsky] It seems that Syria is now more than ever isolated in the Arab world; from the point of view of the war effort, the Soviet Union is keeping a distance from Syria. Is all this not decreasing the chance of Syria launching a war with Israel on its own—in defiance of the USSR stance, for instance?

[Shomron] Yes. One of the conditions for the Syrian military power dogma I mentioned earlier is Soviet support, even if it is not openly declared. The less the Soviet Union supports this approach, the better the chance to avoid war.

[Shlonsky] Do you think there is now less danger of a war?

[Shomron] It is difficult to tell, because although the Soviet Union is currently talking of wanting to reduce aid to Syria, what we see in practice is that the aid and the means to conduct modern warfare keep arriving. [passage omitted]

King Devotes National Address to Elections

JN0710203089 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1801 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Speech by Jordanian King Husayn on "resumption of parliamentary democratic life" and impending "election campaign" in Amman—live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Dear citizens, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters: I extend to you my greetings and love. I speak to you today as we all prepare to enter a new phase in the life of our Jordanian Arab people, a phase in which the resumption of parliamentary democratic life represents the threshold and the beginning.

No doubt, you realize that life is a continuous chain of phases. Each has its own distinct nature, but it is not separated from the preceding or succeeding phases. No doubt, also, you realize that in their course of development, enblightened peoples select from the past what has proven useful in order to develop and build on it, and avoid what has been proven bad in order to avert dangers and pitfalls. Enlightened societies also realize that they are not isolated from the rest of the world or from the evolution of history. Otherwise, they will fall into the chasms of backwardness, oblivion, and even dissolution and obliteration.

It behooves us, while we are on the threshhold of a new phase, to remember all this. We should know the type of horse we are mounting, and the ground we are stepping on so that enthusiasm and excessiveness will not push us to the point of falling off the other side of the horse. We also must not turn a blind eye to reality and sink in the sands.

My talk to you today will be from mind to mind in its impartiality, and from heart to heart in its sincerity and warmth. So let us begin by addressing the following questions to ourselves: What is the nature of the next phase? What are its landmarks? What is its position on Jordan's historical map? What are the objective circumstances which produced this phase, making it so distinct? My answers to these questions are the substance of my talk to you. I will also divulge my inner feelings to you in the hope that we will assume our common responsibilities with consciousness, earnestness, and confidence.

Many people believe that we are entering a new phase for no reason except that we will be resuming our parliamentary democratic life. There is some truth in this, but not the entire truth. Our parliamentary life only stopped for a short period. What stopped for a period of about a quarter of a century was the holding of general elections. As to why that happened, the whole story is known to you. It began when it became impossible to hold such elections after the West Bank fell under Israeli occupation in June 1967. Had their been no occupation, the elections would have been held in 1971 after the expiration of the term of the elected council in April 1967. Out of our firm desire to ensure the largest possible degree of participation under those anomalous conditions, we took every measure allowable under the Constitution to compensate for an elected parliament. For instance, we legally extended the 1967 parliament when its term expired.

Then, at a later stage, we amended the electoral law to fill seats that became vacant by death from those seats allocated to the West Bank. Then, when we realized that the House of Representatives had begun to lose its realistic representational power after 10 years without giving the people the opportunity to express their opinion about their representatives, we managed to establish the National Consultative Council, and elected its members from figures who represent the various sects, classes, and regions of the people in implementation of the principle of consultation that we have never relinquished. Despite this, we were convinced that the National Consultative Council cannnot be an alternative to a House of Representatives that is freely elected by the people and given their confidence. Then, when we realized that we were about to fall into a constitutional impasse due to the continuation of the difficult circumstances, we reinstituted the dissolved council, called upon it to meet, filled the West Bank's vacant seats, and held complementary elections in the East Bank.

The situation continued like this until new, objective circumstances emerged as a result of the Palestinian people's blessed intifadah, which emerged as an important factor in the political arena at both regional and international levels. The intifadah defined its objectives as the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Out of the realization that confirming the national identity of the Palestinian people on the territory of Palestine is the greatest possible support for their valiant intifadah against occupation, and in response to the PLO's desire and the Arab states' approach, we made the decision of breaking legal and administrative ties with the West Bank on 31 July 1988. Among the results of this decision on Jordan was the removal of the obstacle that was preventing the holding of general parliamentary elections. Thus, the electoral law was amended to cope with the new situation. And here we are all getting ready for the general elections for the first time since 1967. This means, among several issues, that male and female citizens between the ages of 19 and 41 will exercise this democratic experience for the first time in their life.

Can general elections alone, however, create a new stage, or are there other factors? Undoubtedly, this development constitutes one of the prominent features of the upcoming stage. At any rate, it is a factor that has come in accordance with a decision that we have made while inspired by our conscience and in harmony with our

constitutional commitment. On the other hand, there are two other factors associated with it that make the upcoming stage a new stage. The first factor is the coincidence in the timing of the decision to hold general elections following the break of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank in 1988, and between a time for reconsideration and reassessment that was necessary after 2 decades of Israel's occupation of the West Bank. This period was full of events and developments. At the beginning of that period, Jordan had to deal with the consequences of occupation. Throughout that period, the state carried out four development plans, throughout which the society was affected by the economic boom that prevailed in the region due to the increase in oil prices, including the improvement of the living standard and the general inclination for consumption and for quick enrichment, the completion of the infrastructure, the improvement of the level of health care, and the expansion of higher education.

During the same period, the communication between our society and the outside world increased, whether by the television station that was launched during this period, through university education abroad, or by tourist travel after the means of transportation became accessible. Also during this period, social development on more than one level was realized. During that time, women were granted their right to vote and compete in elections. We also saw the Social Security Fund launched. We also witnessed an expansion in the trade union and in social, voluntary, and youth activities.

During the same period, the imbalance in the equation involving the population and resources, particularly water, was exacerbated, and the initial indicators of unemployment emerged among certificate holders. In brief, the past period witnessed far-reaching economic, social, and cultural changes. These changes were bound, due to their interaction, to produce a rich experience, and new values, trends, and aspirations inasmuch as they were bound to produce negative consequences which might be few or numerous. All of these consequences and results, whether positive or negative, required an assessment and a reconsideration which we have actually started by reassessing the educational system.

We were about to make some progress in this field when we were caught unaware by the economic and financial issue which we also tackled through reconsideration and assessment. We have embarked on tackling this issue. If all this has any significance, it indicates that the coming phase will be new not only because of the resumption of democratic parliamentary life, but also because of the responsibilities which we will all shoulder since the new parliament will not be, as envisioned by some, a mere rostrum for making political statements. No, it will also serve as a national institution through which we will contribute to the realization of national policies in all fields: industry, commerce, agriculture, tourism, culture, education, manpower, services, water, energy, and population.

The responsibilities created by objective developments and interactions also make the coming phase a new one. This is the first factor. As you know, this factor has domestic dimensions and elements.

As for the second factor, it concerns the objective circumstances and the developments that have emerged on regional and international levels. Many of these developments have their direct and indirect effect on our national arena. On the regional level, there are the three conflicts which are yet to be resolved. The Iraq-Iran conflict has so far been stalemated at the current cease-fire status, despite the fact that more than 1 year has elapsed since this cease-fire went into effect. This is because the Iranian leadership, regrettably, is still maneuvering and stalling, which has increased doubts about its true intentions in the Gulf region. This also places the region in a state of alert and readiness. This prevents all parties from devoting their efforts to building and reconstruction within the framework of peace and neighborly relations.

The Arab-Israeli conflict, with the Palestine question at its heart, is still raging between the steadfast, struggling Palestinian people through their brave intifadah, and Israel, which obstructs peace efforts and sticks to its intransigence and arrogance for fear of just peace.

Within this situation, we still hear and read about Zionist ideas and plans that describe Jordan as an alternative homeland for the Palestinians. At the same time, we feel that there are attempts to minimize and paralyze Jordan's role and influence as a part of the enemy's strategy to strike at the Arab forces in the confrontation. This prompts us to beware of a new catastrophe aimed at pushing us to relinquish our existing legitimate demands, as happened on previous occasions. Only our awareness, cohesion, and cooperation as Jordanians and Arabs can abort the aggressor's schemes. What justifies our concern about the enemy's plans is our failure to heed these plans and act accordingly.

There is also the Lebanese conflict and its complications. One of the things that emerged from this conflict is the Islamic-Christian conflict that was first fabricated and later strengthened as a result of foreign and non-Arab illusions and interferences. This means that our nation, today, is facing new, serious, aggressive attempts to fragment it on sectarian and religious grounds. This is a large, unparalleled danger to our pan-Arab security. This is because this danger comes from within this nation. And the start of this was as cunning as the objective.

Religion has been exploited to carry out political purposes so that religion, in accordance with its norms, will be a means for acquiring power, an instrument of foreign policy, or a way of carrying out certain countries' schemes and ambitions. Some simple and religious persons are organized; others, who search for money and influence, are recruited and trained to kill, destroy, bomb, and perpetrate the most heinous and ugly acts. This is contrary to the simplest principles and values of

religion. They kill innocent people, hold hostages, bomb the holy mosque in Mecca, kill the pilgrims in the holy places in the holy month, and carry out other similar acts. What is worse than all this is that they do this in the name of religion, and the religion is free of them.

The terrorism of these people almost overshadows Israel's daily atrocities and organized repressive measures against the defenseless Palestinian people, who are struggling for their human and legitimate national rights. Their deviations and excesses have reached the point where their crimes have become disgusting to the believers. And this has put the responsibility of defending the true principles and values of Islam on those who truly believe in God and his prophet, and who protect Islam against those who distort it. There is another group of people who saw fit to preoccupy themselves day and night and on all occasions with obsolete, marginal matters, or the woman's body, and not the woman who is the mother, sister, and daughter—the woman the human being, the productive, effective, and capable. These people have forgotten that Islam is the religion of ethics and values that constrains all animal instincts in the human being, in both man and woman alike.

Islam is a religion that preaches work and production. It can never condone paralyzing the potential of half of society, or be lenient with the supercilious attitude toward our mothers, daughters, and sisters. Brothers, our religion is one of tolerance and moderation. Thus, have we made of you an ummah justly balanced, that ye might be witnesses over nations, and the apostle a witness over yourselves [Koranic verse]. Islam is a religion preaching dialogue. And argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious [Koranic verse]. It is also a religion which respects human life. If anyone killed someone—unless it were done in retribution for murder or for spreading mischief in the land—it would be as if he killed all the people; and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of all the people [Koranic verse]. It is a religion preaching mercy. We sent thee not, but as a mercy for all creatures [Koranic verse]. Islam is a religion which preaches ethics. Were thou severe or harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from about thee [Koranic verse].

With the attempts to exploit religion for political designs and the impact this has had in the Lebanese arena in the form of warring organizations, militias, and parties, we must be alert that what is intended to be portrayed as a Christian-Muslim conflict in Lebanon is designed to make such a conflict become a reality, or designed to create a rift in the Arab ranks from the inside, and affect the future of holy Jerusalem in a manner that conflicts with Arab rights and interests. This will be carried out by using what is taking place in Lebanon as an effort to void [Prophet] 'Umar's covenant of its spirit and contents. This covenant has governed the relations between Muslims and Christians, and enabled them to coexist as one Arab people, sharing the same concerns and working for the same objectives over hundreds of years.

Brothers, what is taking place around us and in our midst is of great importance and very grave. This calls for caution and alertness to foil the designs against us and our Jerusalem. From this premise, we forcefully support the Arab tripartite committee's efforts. We wish it success in its mission, and we appeal to all the parties to cooperate with it so that we may be able to steer them and our nation away from the the trap of our enemies.

On the international level, the time has come for all of us to realize that the strategy of confrontation between the East and the West has become a strategy of cooperation, and that the policy of dependence on any of the two camps to confront the other camp has become a fruitless policy. What we have been cautioning against all along has proved to be true. As a result of this change, the big powers nowadays are inclined to solve their problems and to mobilize international resources to confront the perils that endanger life on this planet in order to save it from the annihilation that looms on the horizon, whether from the weapons of destruction that mankind has developed and states have stockpiled in arsenals, or from the damage that man has done to the environment of the earth on which we live.

These new priorities have made the world proceed toward solving world and regional conflicts which exhaust many resources of the countries and the peoples. There is no doubt that such solutions will reach us in the future. We must be alert because such solutions can take place at our expense—meaning us, the Arabs—if we allow them to do so as a result of a lack of awareness of what is taking place around us, or as a result of our preoccupation with differences and petty matters.

These are the regional and international conditions in which we live. These conditions place certain responsibilities on our shoulders in view of the challenges which they present and which make the next phase, on whose threshold we now stand, a new phase.

On top of all this, the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC], which originated from our pan-Arab commitment and which we helped establish, along with our brothers in Egypt, Iraq, and North Yemen, came to express our common view of the importance of the Arab economic integration and our awareness of the connection between the issue of pan-Arab progress and security and the issue of unity. It also came to express our awareness of the fact that the existence of this nation, its awakening, and the assumption of its natural position in this world are deeply related to its comprehensive unity. Furthermore, it came to express our understanding that the emergence of this nation out of the sphere of receiving into the sphere of giving, and out of the sphere of reaction into the sphere of action and participation is dependent on its being a single nation that deserves to carry its pan-Arab inheritance and take pride in its glories by resuming building, giving, and participating in human development as a single, homogeneous, and cohesive nation.

The achievement of the ACC's objectives and the realization of the goals for which it was established requires a single view, a single conviction, and a common effort from all citizens and officials, no matter what their positions may be.

Based on this understanding, the ACC is now heading toward setting up a parliamentary committee from the four countries, initially coordinating an institutional framework in which the hopes, opinions, and knowledge of the peoples of the ACC member states interact through their elected representatives. This is based on the ACC's belief that economic integration and common action aimed at reaching a practical formula for the desired Arab unity requires a real, popular participation from top to bottom.

Therefore, as we long to carry out the responsibility we have for ourselves and future generations, we hope that the House of Representatives you elect will rise to the level of the pan-Arab mission, which we are resolved to shoulder with our brothers in the ACC member states in order to translate our peoples' aspirations, benefit from the experiences of the past, and take guidance from the successful experiences of others in this regard.

Brother citizens, these reasons and considerations which I mentioned, whether on the national or the pan-Arab and international levels, are the ones which make the next phase a new one. We will not be content with the joy of receiving the new, because the new will lose its gloss after people become accustomed to it and will become old. But what benefits people will remain and continue to shine. So, let us make the new phase a fruitful and effective one through a parliamentary democracy which ensures real, mindful participation. Such a democracy derives its strength from an objective and responsible dialogue, from reasoning and moderation, from understanding the limits under which the state acts, and from the ability to differentiate between the possible and the illusory, between the good and the bad, between the national interest and the personal or group interest, and between the slogans which appeal to emotions and have no chance of implementation and what is said on the basis of realism and the sense of national and pan-Arab responsibility.

This ability to differentiate will guarantee a House of Representatives capable of rendering success to a democracy based on the principle of institutional participation. Let us remember that the homeland is in need of people who will tackle their problems and issues on the ground with rationalism, realism, and equilibrium, and not those who will carry them on the wings of imagination in the world of illusions and slogans.

The success of the experiment is in your hands; it is a trust in your hearts, candidates and voters. I do not believe that any of you are intent on foiling the experiment, God forbid, through excessiveness, extremism, and tampering. My keenness to preserve the Constitution is equal to my desire to protect your interests and that of the homeland, and the interests of our Arab nation as well as the interests of the coming generation. God alone is immortal.

Let us remember that the challenges ahead are great and plentiful, and that they require every possible honest effort to confront them and cope with them. They are challenges linked to our reality and future, as well as the future of our nation and security. Let us also remember that the many experiences through which we have passed together have asserted that this homeland is focused in its firmness on principle and steadfastness in the face of challenges.

Whenever we look back and review a long record of obstacles, turning points, and dangers, we will feel very content about many things we achieved, and will regret some slip-ups. If mistakes happened here and there, our consolation is that our achievements have exceeded our capabilities and that the mistakes have led us to some gaps which we are working to fill and shortages which we will overcome. We shall not allow the clouds of the past to overshadow the brightness of the future. Nevertheless, we realize that we could not have successfully confronted what we have confronted had we succumbed to blackmail or given in to temptation.

My sons and daughters, my brothers and sisters: We have always lived as one cohesive family. In a few days, our community will be tested in its cohesiveness during the legal elections campaign period. Candidates will compete to win parliamentary seats. The love that has always linked us and the values and ethics to which we have always adhered are what we need to make this competition an honest and modern one. I have a great confidence that my brother candidates will avoid disputes and the abyss of exchanging accusations and slanders. They will rise above cheap and vituperative language. Competition to reach a public office must follow a lofty method. The objective should always be the homeland's concerns and aspirations and the means must be the best opinions and sound interpretations presented by the candidates to resolve, not complicate our problems; to tackle, not ignore, our issues; and to face the challenges confronting us on the national and pan-Arab levels in order to continue the march of construction with God's help within the framework of love and cooperation, which are the pillars of this community and the strong thread from which we have woven our national unity, which we glorify and redeem.

The candidates and voters should be at the level of responsibility dictated by these challenges that I have indicated and explained, and which I believe you are aware of. The candidate has a national duty that is represented by the honest approach; and the voter has a national duty that is represented first by casting his vote and second by electing the candidate whom he believes best represents his interests and aspirations within the framework of the national interest.

He who sells his votes is in fact selling his conscience, and he who sells his conscience sells his homeland and nation. Praise be to God, I consider you owners of pure conscience. I will continue to wager on your awareness, purity, wisdom, sincere approach, good estimation, and deep affiliation. I will continue to wager on your constitutional commitment and your concern to perform the mission honestly.

Based on this, I am confident that we shall pass through the threshold of the new phase with great hope and confidence in the future and in solving our problems, tackling our issues, and continuing our triumphant march. We are determined to make the experiment a success, thus making the new period one of achievement and action on both the national and pan-Arab levels.

I ask God to bestow on you, both the voters and the elected, assistance and success. I ask Almighty God to grant us the strength to carry the trust and perform the duty with you. May God guide you. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Reportage on Kidnapping of Red Cross Members

Fatah Official Comments

NC0710063589 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The International Committee of the Red Cross has appealed for the release of its representatives kidnapped in Sidon yesterday. It said its representatives were in Lebanon to oversee training in the use of artificial limbs by the handicapped.

Na'im Shubatiyah, a Fatah Movement official in Lebanon, has said the kidnapping is linked to the case of Muhammad al-Hariri, who is serving a life sentence in Switzerland. He added that the same kidnappers were responsible for the abduction of Peter Winkler.

Fatah Asks 'Arafat To Help

NC0710082389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] According to Palestinian sources, Fatah Movement officials held a meeting yesterday with the military leaders of various Palestinian factions in an effort to locate the two abducted Swiss men. The participants asked Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat to use his influence to secure their release.

Al-Huss Condemns Abduction

NC0710094989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today followed up the abduction of Swiss nationals Elio Erriquez and Emanuel Christen. He contacted (Michel Dernau), the International Red Cross representative in Beirut; the internal security forces command; and Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization. Al-Huss also telephoned the Swiss Embassy and condemned the abduction of workers from an organization that renders the greatest humanitarian and social services under the most difficult of conditions. Dr al-Huss called the kidnapping a cowardly and treacherous act which harms Lebanon, its society, and all humanitarian efforts.

ICRC Suspends Relief Operations

NC0710122089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] announced today that it will suspend its relief work in Sidon following the abduction of two employees yesterday. The ICRC representative in Sidon said that the ICRC will not resume operations until the two are released.

Abu-Nidal Group Denies Involvement

NC0710154989 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1533 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The International Committee of the Red Cross has withdrawn its remaining four Swiss employees from Sidon following the kidnapping of two of their colleagues. Meanwhile, the Fatah-Revolutionary Council, led by Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], has denounced the kidnapping and denied involvement in it.

Fatah Measures To Locate Nationals

NC0710165489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] A Palestinian source in Sidon today said that the pro-'Arafat Fatah has taken security measures to locate the place where the two representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, who were kidnapped yesterday, are being held and to identify the kidnappers.

PFLP Says Search Fails

NC0810154489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Abu-Nizar [Yahya Saqr Habash], an official in Lebanon from the George Habash-led Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has asserted that the inspection and searches by the PLO security apparatus have failed to locate the two International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] officials who were kidnapped in Sidon on Friday, 6 October.

Palestinian sources asserted today that the PLO leadership in South Lebanon delivered a handwritten message to the ICRC officials in Sidon last night. In the message, the PLO condemned the kidnapping, saying that it is a suspect act on the part of certain intelligence organs which want to harm the PLO.

ICRC Resumes Activities

LD0810162989 Berne International Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The All-Swiss International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] has resumed its activities in the southern Lebanese port of Sidon after its staff was withdrawn following the kidnapping on Friday of two other ICRC workers in the city. An ICRC spokesman in Geneva said the two remaining staff had returned to Sidon on Saturday, but said there was still no word on the fate of the two kidnapped workers, Emmanuel Christen and Elio Erriquez.

The ICRC spokesman said delegates had stepped up talks with Lebanese militia leaders and political groups in a bid to trace the two men. However, he said there had been no claim of responsibility for the kidnapping. [passage omitted]

Details of Syrian Withdrawal Disclosed

JN0810094289 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 6 Oct 89 p 18

[Text] Paris—AL-QABAS reveals for the first time the truth about the guarantees that the higher Arab tripartite committee has obtained on the future of the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon, which is the major obstacle now facing the Lebanese deputies' meetings in al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia. The exclusive information AL-QABAS obtained from highly placed sources well acquainted with the tripartite committee's efforts indicates the presence of four types of guarantees given to the tripartite committee by President Hafiz al-Asad and Syrian officials concerning the subject of the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

This exclusive information reveals that all these guarantees do not obligate Syria to withdraw its forces from all the Lebanese territories within a fixed period of time, and that fixing a date for an overall Syrian withdrawal is at best postponed until 1992. This information also indicates that the tripartite committee believes that Syria cannot be asked to make more concessions regarding the future of its forces in Lebanon. The information also indicates the presence of official U.S. and Soviet approval of this.

AL-QABAS exclusively reveals the truth about these guarantees as follows: The first guarantee lies in the minutes of the meeting held between President Hafiz al-Asad and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid in Tripoli in early September this year on the sidelines of Libya's celebration of the 1 September revolution anniversary. During this meeting, President al-Asad told President Bendjedid that he agrees to the principle of the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon provided that it is based on the following principles:

1. No fixed timetable for the Syrian forces' withdrawal from all the Lebanese territories should be drawn up now, and this matter should be deferred to a later stage.

2. No decision or statement explicitly and obligatorily demanding the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon should be issued; this matter should be dealt with within the framework of cooperation and understanding between Lebanon and Syria.

3. The Syrian leadership's readiness to agree to the fixing of a relatively logical period of time ranging from 2 to 3 years for the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Beirut and some of the mountain areas to al-Biqa' and other areas provided that this takes place as part of the redeployment of these forces.

4. Any decision related to moving the Syrian forces from their present positions should be reached through an understanding between the Syrian Government and the Lebanese national reconciliation government after the reforms document is endorsed, a new president of the Republic is elected, and a Lebanese national reconciliation government is formed—and not now.

Talks between President al-Asad and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid played a decisive role in encouraging the tripartite committee leaders to seriously think of resuming their efforts to solve the Lebanese problem.

Following this Syrian-Algerian meeting in Tripoli, work began to amend the national reconciliation document which was prepared by the committee at the end of July. The amendments primarily dealt with matters related to the future of the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon and with Lebanese-Syrian relations. They took into consideration the ideas presented and expounded by Al-Asad during his talks with Bendjedid in Tripoli. Accordingly, a new formula was drafted for the national reconciliation document, which is the formula the Lebanese deputies are currently discussing in al-Ta'if. This brings us to the second guarantee.

The second guarantee is the following: A copy of this new amended formula of the national reconciliation document was sent to the Syrian Government a few days before it was made public and before the tripartite committee's foreign ministers met in Jeddah and issued their famous statement on 17 September in which they announced their resumption of their mission and called for a cease-fire in Lebanon and for the Lebanese deputies' meeting outside Lebanon to discuss the national reconciliation document. The Syrian officials studied the new text of the national reconciliaiton document a few days before the Jeddah meeting and accepted it. They officially informed the tripartite committee that they were committed to implementing the points related to them as cited in the document, and this is the second guarantee.

The third guarantee was an oral promise made by the Syrian leadership to a prominent official in the tripartite committee. This promise includes readiness to begin withdrawing the Syrian forces from Beirut 6 months after the election of a new president for the Republic, the formation of a national reconciliation government, and the endorsement of the reforms document, provided that the security circumstances permit and the Lebanese Government is willing to see it done. This promise was communicated to General Michel 'Awn, head of the Lebanese military government, during the contacts Lakhdar Ibrahimi, envoy of the tripartite committee, held in Beirut before the Lebanese deputies' departure for al-Ta'if.

The fourth guarantee was Syria's replies to questions posed by the tripartite committee on the future of the Syrian forces in Lebanon. These questions were posed to the Syrian officials at the request of some Lebanese parties and Gen 'Awn. The tripartite committee recorded the Syrian officials' replies to these questions, which dealt in particular with the subject of the Syria forces' withdrawal from Lebanon and the future of Syrian-Lebanese relations. These replies did not go beyond what al-Asad had earlier said to Bendjedid in Tripoli.

These are the four guarantees the tripartite committee has on the future of the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon. What do these guarantees mean in practice? They mean the following:

1. President al-Asad has for the first time and in such an official manner agreed to the principle of the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. The tripartite committee's sources consider this a major accomplishment and believe no more can be obtained from the Syrian leadership under the current circumstances.

2. The Syrian leadership is committed to implement only what was cited in the national reconciliation document concerning the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon and cannot be committed to more than that.

We should recall what the document said in this regard. It said verbatim: Since the aim of the Lebanese state is to extend its authority over all Lebanese soil through its own forces represented in the first place by the internal security forces, and owing to the brotherly relations linking Syria to Lebanon, the Syrian forces will thankfully help the legitimate Lebanese forces to extend the authority of the Lebanese state within a specified period of time not exceeding 2 years beginning after the ratification of the national reconciliation document, the election of the president of the Republic, the formation of the government of national reconciliation, and the adoption of the political reforms in a constitutional way. At the end of this period, the Syrian Government, in agreement with the Lebanese government of national reconciliation, will decide to redeploy the Syrian forces in the al-Biqa' area and the entrance of the Western al-Biqa' at Dahr al-Baydar up to the line of Hammana, al-Mudayrij, 'Ayn Darah, and other points. An agreement will be signed specifying the size and the time of the Syrian forces' presence in these areas. The higher Arab tripartite committee is prepared to help the two countries arrive at this agreement if they so desire.

In practical terms this means that the Syrian forces will not begin withdrawal from al-Biqa' before 2 years after the election of the new president of the Republic and the ratification of the reform document. The final date of the full Syrian withdrawal from all the Lebanese territories will not be fixed before 1992 at best.

3. The Syrian leadership refuses any amendment or change regarding its forces' withdrawal from Lebanon or the future of Lebanese-Syrian relations.

Accordingly, the tripartite committee was careful to tell the Lebanese deputies in al-Ta'if that all matters related to the Syrian withdrawal and Lebanese-Syrian relations as cited in the present text of the national reconciliation document cannot be amended or changed. AL-QABAS was the first to reveal this in a dispatch from Paris published in the 27 September issue. In it, AL-QABAS stressed that the tripartite committee objects to making basic amendments to the new national reconciliation document and that the committee hopes the Lebanese deputies will be satisfied with slight amendments that would be acceptable to all Muslim and Christian deputies. Moreover, this formula on the Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon enjoys an official U.S and Soviet support. This means that the two superpowers object to any major or basic amendments to the present formula.

Withdraw From Chamber Area

NC0710075789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] It is reported that Syria has agreed to withdraw its forces from the vicinity of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies premises in the Mansur palace and to reassemble them in areas of West Beirut in the near future.

'Destruction' To Follow

NC0710115489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] A source close to Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has responded to Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's warning that massacres and destruction would follow the Syrian occupation forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

The source said: Despite our compliance with the Arab brothers' request to halt press campaigns and facilitate the efforts of the higher tripartite committee, calls by Syrian officials and in the Syrian and hired media for intimidation and the instigation and escalation of violence continue unabated.

The latest Syrian frenzied campaign against Lebanon seeks to pressure the Lebanese deputies meeting in al-Ta'if by threatening them with unprecedented massacres and the destruction of Lebanon should the Syrian occupation forces withdraw.

Such threats will not intimidate any Lebanese citizen nor will they convince any Arab or foreigner. Everyone knows that Damascus, in its efforts to justify its intervention and impose its control, was always responsible for the massacres among Lebanese organizations, factions, sects, and faiths, and even among the sons of the same faith.

Many more people were killed by these massacres than in the fighting among Lebanese and with Israel.

As far as the allegation by Al-Shar' that Syria seeks a political solution to avert the destruction of Lebanon, no one is unaware that Syria's actions over 14 years have created the practical partition that has been imposed on Lebanon.

In any case, we can assure the Syrian foreign minister that not a single bullet will be fired after his army withdraws from Lebanon, except bullets of joy over the end of the occupation and elimination of oppression, intimidation, and humiliation.

'Awn on Withdrawal Timetable

NC0810173089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has told visitors that the withdrawals and their timetable are two main issues which we simply cannot ignore because of pledges and assuring explanations or because of oral guarantees. Gen 'Awn added: It is high time to patch up differences over this basic issue.

Gen 'Awn assured his vistors that the failure to reach a radical solution at this stage regarding the drawing up of a timetable for withdrawals does not necessarily mean the return of the gun. It will rather pave the way for further efforts to tackle the situation and to conduct a political dialogue as a prelude to achieving the comprehensive solution to which all Lebanese aspire, Gen 'Awn concluded.

Deputies Insist on Timetable

NC0810185189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] In a dispatch from al-Ta'if, AFP reported that the Christian deputies have strongly reiterated their demand that the voting for reforms should take place at the same time as a written timetable for a complete withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon. The agency cited Arab diplomatic sources in al-Ta'if as saying that Syria has refused to give the written guarantees requested by the Christians.

AFP added that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal will again meet tonight with Phalangist Party Leader Dr George Sa'adah.

Sa'adah on Syrian Withdrawal

NC0710175789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Speaking at a press conference in al-Ta'if today, Phalangist Party leader deputy George Sa'adah called on Syria to withdraw from the Lebanese quagmire and said that those who insist on the Syrian presence are defending their own interests and not Syria's interest. He added: We do not demand an immediate Syrian withdrawal but a clear and definite timetable that should be included in the Arab tripartite committee's document. He also said that the Arab plan that the Lebanese deputies are studying is not a Bible or a Koran and that the deputies have not come to al-Ta'if to rubber stamp it.

Sa'adah revealed that Saudi King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz has sent messages to a number of leaders, including Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn, in the past few hours. He said that the Lebanese ambassador in Washington has been summoned to the U.S. State Department where he was handed a message but Sa'adah did not reveal anything else about this. He added: We are here to find a final solution to the crisis but our fears must first be removed and we should not return home feeling that we have been cheated. [passage omitted]

In his replies to questions, the Phalangist party leader said: Former Speaker Husayn al-Husayni is getting the views of all the deputies together and he has a working team which started yesterday to collate the views propounded in order to include them in a draft that would be submitted to the deputies. He added: We have discussed all the points in the document except the one dealing with sovereignty and the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. We have left this issue for contacts on the sidelines and for bilateral, tripartite, or private meetings in order to deliberate on this issue and keep it away from outbiddings. He said that the Arab tripartite committee is making contacts and that King Fahd has sent messages to more than one country on this critical and sensitive issue. [passage omitted]

Responding to a question on whether he would accept the document that Gen 'Awn would accept or whether he has his own view, Sa'adah said:

[Begin recording] We are deputies who represent the Lebanese people. Gen 'Awn is the prime minister with his own view. We might have our own view. We might agree on many basic issues. When we reach any agreement or draft agreement, we must consult with everyone in order to fortify the agreement and not to get the view of this or that party. We maintain constant consultations. It is not a secret that we had a lengthy meeting with Gen 'Awn before we came here and discussed many issues. There are certain matters over which we have agreed and there are other matters over which we have differed. The Lebanese deputy represents all the Lebanese people and it is on the basis of our responsibility that we are deliberating here, so we must refer to our consciences first and to the people we represent in order to honor this responsibility. [passage omitted] [end recording]

'Positive Atmosphere' Cited at Al-Ta'if Meetings

NC1010082189 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Excerpts] A positive atmosphere reemerged in al-Ta'if after the higher Arab committee managed to resolve thorny issues, tackle objections, and create a measure of understanding on several points of the national reconciliation document. [passage omitted] For 2 days now, the higher Arab committee has been pressing for speedy approval of political reforms.

The committee concluded that the time spent so far has been sufficient to approve the reforms and that the discussion turned into a waste of time over the past 2 days. All deputies had enough time to say what they wanted and those who wanted to vent their frustration had the opportunity to done so.

The committee advised no further discussion on the clause on Lebanon's sovereignty, for the agreement on

withdrawals contained in this clause has been drafted following contacts on the highest levels and visits to numerous Arab and world capitals.

Sources close to the Arab committee said that the real problem is in political reforms and not with any other matter. Therefore, the committee told all those concerned that an agreement on political reforms would lead automatically to agreement on the sovereignty clause.

Lebanese deputies are expected to hold a general session tomorrow, Wednesday, to approve the modifications [on the national reconciliation document] which the parliamentary committee is due to draft today. [passage omitted]

In the light of many consultations, the deputies have agreed that Lebanon is a sovereign and independent country. It is a republic with a democratic parliamentary system based on the respect of public and individual freedoms. The deputies reached an understanding concerning the venue of the parliamentary meetings. They also agreed to increase parliamentary seats to 108 and set the duration of the speaker's term at 4 years.

Deputies To Elect President, Speaker in Beirut

NC0610165789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The Information Ministry team in al-Ta'if reports the Lebanese deputies' meetings have been positive so far. The team cites parliamentary sources as saying that a way out of the bottleneck has begun to take shape. The same sources say the deputies will return to Beirut to elect a speaker for the Chamber of Deputies and appoint his office staff, to endorse the national accord document, to elect a president of the Republic, and to form a government of accord and reform in line with the clauses of the higher Arab committee statement.

Abu-al-Lam' Says Rafsanjani Stand 'Irresponsible'

NC0610151689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Ambassador Faruq Abu-al-Lam', secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, described Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's position on Lebanon as very serious and irresponsible and as representing Persian interference in Lebanese and Arab affairs.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani has said: If Muslim representatives voted in al-Ta'if in favor of the Maronite sect, they would be guilty of great treason against the Muslim Lebanese people.

Further on Abu-al-Lam' Comments

NC0610193489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Ambassador Faruq Abu-al-Lam', secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, has rejected Persian interference in Lebanese affairs. He said he believes that the Tehran conference [of some Lebanese and Palestinian figures] is an attempt to sabotage the al-Ta'if conference.

Commenting on a statement by Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani that if Muslim representatives voted for the election of a Maronite president, they would be guilty of high treason against the Muslim Lebanese people, Abu-al-Lam' said:

[Begin Abu-al-Lam' recording] I place this very grave statement before the conferees in al-Ta'if. This irresponsible statement at this juncture and on the eve of the resolutions to be adopted regarding the Lebanese issue is tantamount to aiding one group of Lebanese over another group, as well as Persian interference in Lebanese and Arab affairs.

Since ancient times and since the creation of Lebanon we the Lebanese have dealt with all the heavenly religions with all love and openness. This Persian interference in Lebanese affairs is rejected in both form and substance. I place this interference before the conferees in al-Ta'if so that they may be aware of it.

I would like to publicly ask where Iran obtained its weapons. We all know about the scandals in the United States and elsewhere. All these scandals frankly indicate that Israel was a major arms supplier of the Iranian revolution. I would like to remind His Excellency Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati of this. Some Lebanese figures met under his kind auspices, as was officially reported. During that meeting, Velayati lectured us on Arabism, although he is a Persian. This is the end of the world. Velayati does not speak Arabic to give us a lesson in Arabic and to interfere in Arab affairs. I also place Velayati's statement before the conferees in al-Ta'if.

I believe that with these statements the Iranian leaders have wrecked three quarters of the al-Ta'if conference resolutions. Naturally, we reject these statements.

As for the Iranian leaders talk about the Lebanese regime and the so-called Maronite hegemony, this matter concerns Lebanon and the Lebanese in general, no matter the community or party to which they belong. It is the same as if I call on the Iranian regime to apply secularism in Iran. It is also as if I ask about the fate of the thousands of people hanged overnight and on whose corpses the Iranian Revolution was established, as well as about the rivers of blood that have flowed in Iran. I have the right to demand the amendment of their regime, just as they are interfering in the issue of the amendment of our regime. [end recording]

Al-Huss Optimistic for Peace Settlement

LD0810102489 Kuwait KUNA in English 0806 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 8 (KUNA)—Lebanon has entered the peace and settlement era due to the sincere efforts of the Arab League tripartite committee, said acting Lebanese Premier Dr Salim al-Huss Sunday.

Al-Huss stressed that the current truce in his country provides the opportunity to achieve the political solution to the Lebanese crisis.

He added that Arab peace scheme is a prelude for the final settlement of the Lebanese problem, expressing optimism over executing the political side of the peace scheme, particularly the meeting of the Lebanese deputies abroad to reach a reform and reconciliation formula.

Al-Huss, who was talking to daily AL-SIYASAH published here Sunday, also expressed optimism at electing a new Lebanese president before the end of November, which is the end of the six months period set for the Arab League committee to execute its Lebanon mission.

About the "liberation war" launched by head of the interim military government Gen Michel 'Awn against the Syrian presence in Lebanon last March, Al-Huss said once 'Awn accepts the tripartite committee's resolutions such as cessation of hostilities, lifting of blockades and the meeting of Lebanese deputies, this will mean the end of what [is] so-called "the liberation war."

Yet, he stressed that the radical solution to the Lebanese tribulation cannot be accomplished without a full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese territories.

Asked whether he is willing to meet with Gen 'Awn, Al-Huss said the inter-Lebanese dialogue is an issue that is being taken care of by the tripartite committee and "we are fully ready to cooperate with whomever it sees appropriate."

Daily Says Islamic Forces Determine Future

LD0810142989 Tehran IRNA in English 1407 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct 8, IRNA—The Persian daily KEYHAN said in a commentary Sunday that despite the various devices for Lebanon by the superpowers it is the national and Islamic forces which have a determining power for shaping the future of that country.

It said: "The arrangement of two political sessions simultaneously in Tehran and al-Ta'if in relation to the situation in Lebanon is a token of the importance of this geographical area for resolving political differences in the Middle East.

"Although each of the two centers represent an independent ideology in relation with Islam the international aspects of the crisis is worth noticing. The most important achievement of the al-Ta'if conference was the acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution number 425 which in effect provides for the security of Israel's borders. Incidentally the conference in al-Ta'if has failed to reach a consensus on the issue of the future of Lebanon and its political shape...

"The reactionary Arabs try to show the crisis as a thing of the past and mean to close all doors for struggle against the Zionist regime, and also oust Syrians from the scene and at the same time take full control of the political future of Lebanon...

"With the strategic alignments in the Muslim world increasing daily and with respect to the political future in Lebanon the proposition of leadership in the Muslim world seems very difficult and at the same time significant. The increasing pressure on Syria through Riyadh for getting out of Lebanon has special significance within the context of the political settlement of the Palestinian struggle and repression of their Islamic uprising.

"The keen competition between Tehran, Damascus, and Riyadh in relation to Lebanon is continuously on the increase, although the appeal of the U.S. to Riyadh and the Arab League for the political solution of Lebanon is an indirect admission of the defeat of its policies in relation to Lebanon. The Islamic forces in Lebanon especially the Hizballah must be fully prepared to thwart the policies of the West and the Arab reactionaries...

"While the al-Ta'if conference was being held it was announced that Yasir 'Arafat had agreed to meet Zionist officials within the framework of Mubarak's plan, which development in the background of Moscow's silence portrays a very hazardous future, but whatever it may be the national and Islamic forces in Lebanon are the core and the determining forces of the crisis in that country."

Birri Calls for New Constitution, Regime

NC0710145589 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri returned from Damascus and Tehran today. Minister Birri and Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus last night.

Asked about some newspaper reports that he has demanded an Islamic regime, Minister Birri said: What I precisely and firmly said is that we demand a nonsectarian regime in Lebanon, a regime of justice and equality. This is compatible with Islam and Christianity as well as with all heavenly religions and human principles.

To a question about the deputies' meetings in al-Ta'if, Minister Birri replied: Before al-Ta'if, we warned against the return of the hegemony of political Maronism to Lebanon with Arab support. And while al-Ta'if meetings are taking place, we caution that it would not be in the interest of Lebanon and the Arabs to patch up this regime. We need a new constitution for Lebanon, a binding constitutional agreement and not just a political statement or agreement.

Minister Birri added: What we need is a republic and then we will look for its president. We do not need agreements on papers in order to grab the presidency post and then return to the same regime.

Resistance Fighters Attack Israeli Patrol

NC0710074389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Resistance fighters in the south attacked an Israeli occupation patrol on the 'Alman-al-Shumariyah road. According to security reports, the enemy patrol suffered an unknown number of casualties. In another development, occupation artillery shelled the towns of Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Zawtar al-Sharqiyah.

Clashes Reported in Beirut's Southern Suburb

NC0710205189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Clashes involving machineguns and rockets took place in the Harat Hurayk area in Beirut's Southern Suburb between local gunmen from 2200 to 2300 this evening. A number of shells fell in Galerie Sim'an and 'Ayn al-Rummanah. During the clashes the Syrian forces, Hizballah, and Amal Movement gunmen were put on alert.

Gunfire Reported on Southern Suburb Lines 10 Oct

NC1010143089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Shortly before 1530 today there was machinegun fire on the confrontation lines from St Therese to Galerie Sim'an. Skirmishes involving the use of automatic weapons and rockets took place a little before noon today on the Hill 888 combat line in the mountain area. The sound of explosions could be heard in Beirut.

Islamic Fighters Attack Lahd-Controlled Town

NC1010074789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] According to reports from the fighting south, units from the Islamic resistance encircled and entered Kafr Hunah at 2200 yesterday. The units purged the town of agents of Lahd and liquidated a number of them.

Clashes raged during this operation between the resistance mujahidin and the Lahd gunmen while a support unit from the Islamic resistance destroyed an agents' vehicle carrying four persons. The Lahd agents immediately sought the support of an enemy patrol consisting of 20 vehicles.

Enemy artillery also shelled the area and the Islamic resistance artillery retaliated by shelling the positions of the enemy and his agents and silenced them. The Islamic resistance mujahidin returned safely to base after completing their heroic operation.

Syrians Said Killed, Wounded in Northern Lebanon

NC1010163089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] In northern Lebanon, a Syrian soldier was killed and another was wounded when an RPG was fired at a Syrian roadblock between Shadrah and 'Andaqit in 'Akkar at dawn today.

According to those arriving from the area, the Syrian intelligence elements manning this roadblock have been harassing and humiliating citizens in the region over the past few days.

Cease-Fire Violations Reported in Mountain Area

NC1010124589 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] The al-Yarzah army gangs [army commanded by General Michel 'Awn] violated the cease-fire today on the battle lines of the Southern Suburb and the mountain area. Al-Shiyah came under shelling this afternoon from the positions of these gangs in 'Ayn al-Rummanah, and 1st Lieutenant 'Abd-al-Rahman Aslan was martyred in the bombardment. As a result, the security committee meeting that was due to be held at midday was suspended.

In the mountain area, 'Alayh came under mortar, 106 mm artillery, and machinegun fire between 1200 and 1300 today. Meanwhile, nationalist positions in Ra's al-Jabal, Kayfun, 'Aytat, and al-Ma'rufiyah were bombarded by heavy-caliber artillery from opposite positions held by the army gangs.

Foreign Minister Concludes Visit to New York

Gives Lecture on Middle East

JN0610142889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Excerpt] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has stressed that Syria's insistence on a political solution to the Lebanese crisis has prevented the partitioning of Lebanon. In a lecture entitled "Syria's Viewpoint of Stability in the Middle East," which he delivered yesterday at the invitation of the Foreign Relations Council, Al-Shar' said: Had Syria withdrawn its forces from Lebanon immediately, Lebanon would have witnessed unprecedented massacres leading to the partitioning of the country. The minister explained that when the civil war broke out in Lebanon in 1975, not a single country was ready to help the Lebanese. Syria was the only country that responded to the invitation of the then president of the republic and the calls of large sectors of the Lebanese people.

Al-Shar' said: While Syria managed to stop the bloodshed and halt the civil war, it gave all possible assistance over the years to all the Lebanese so that national reconciliation could be achieved. Syria, Al-Shar' continued, believes that the Lebanese should determine their destiny on their own. He said the party that blocked presidential elections in September 1988 was the same party that resorted to a military solution and resumed the civil war. Over these months of bloody fighting, added Al-Shar', Syria continued to call on all parties to accept a cease-fire and start a political solution in accordance with the Casablanca summit resolution on Lebanon.

On the Arab-Israeli conflict, the foreign minister said that Syria is continuously looking for a just and comprehensive solution to this conflict, but the United States and Israel have not shown genuine desire for a comprehensive settlement, and the special relations between them have played a negative role in the peace process. Mr al-Shar' stressed that the obstacle to peace in the region does not lie only in Israel's expansionist dreams, but also in its insistence on gaining both land and peace. Israel, continued the minister, will not be able to achieve this because every initiative that upholds these Israeli goals is doomed to failure. Al-Shar' said that peace cannot be achieved without Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state in pursuance of UN resolutions. [passage omitted]

Meets Moroccan Counterpart

JN0610143789 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met for the second time yesterday with Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelatif Filali. The talks dealt with the meeting of the Lebanese deputies in al-Ta'if and the efforts of the Arab tripartite committee to resolve the Lebanese crisis in accordance with the Casablanca summit resolution.

Returns to Damascus 7 Oct

JN0810070389 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus from New York this evening after heading the Syrian Arab delegation to the 44th session of the UN General Assembly.

Damascus Rally Marks October War Anniversary

JN0610175489

[Editorial Report] Damascus Television Service in Arabic at 1456 GMT on 6 October links up with Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic to begin a live relay of a rally at Damascus University to mark the 16th anniversary of the 6 October 1973 war with Israel. The rally is attended by Ba'th Party Assistant Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, ministers, and members of the National Progressive Front and popular organizations.

At 1505 GMT the rally begins with the observation of a minute of silence "in honor of the righteous martyrs of the Arab nation" followed by the audience chanting the Ba'th Party anthem.

At 1511 GMT Bashirah Tawakkalna, president of the Syrian Women's General Federation, delivers a speech for popular organizations. She praises the heroism of the Arab soldier and President al-Asad's leadership. She says the October war was the fruit of the Al-Asad-led Corrective Movement in Syria and notes Syrian efforts to foil anti-Arab schemes and maintain Lebanon's unity and territorial integrity.

At 1528 GMT, Ahmad al-Asad, member of the Central Command of the National Progressive Front delivers a speech. He pays tribute to Al-Asad's leadership and stances, and he highlights the achievements of the October war. He also praises Syria's positive role in Lebanon and its support for the intifadah.

At 1542 GMT, Al-Ahmar delivers the Ba'th Party speech. He conveys Al-Asad's greetings to the audience and the Arab nation. He then talks about the lessons of the October war and praises the martyrs who fell in the Golan Heights and Sinai. He says Syria has always mobilized its resources to liberate the Arab land and regain national Palestinian rights. He says the October victory came about thanks to the leadership of Al-Asad, the strong army, the firm domestic front, and the effective Arab solidarity. He notes that the Syrian and Egyptian armies fought Israel together in 1973, which made victory possible. He adds that whenever Syria and Egypt join forces, they score a victory for the Arab nation.

Al-Ahmar then speaks about the Israeli entity as a nucleus of imperialism and colonialism in the region. He highlighted Syria's principled national and pan-Arab positions and its support for the intifadah and the Lebanese nationalist forces. He says: "The heroic Palestinian intifadah is the true indication of the will of the Palestinian Arab people, who reject surrender, occupation, and capitulation to the various Zionist, American, and reactionary schemes." Turning to Lebanon, he says: "Syria supported the efforts of the Arab tripartite committee and played a primary role in the progress it made on security and political levels." He adds: "We stress our enthusiasm for the success of the Lebanese dialogue, and, at the same time, stress that success is possible if those who have privileges abandon them and rationally and realistically discuss the best ways for building a new system that restores Lebanon's unity, safety, pan-Arab role, and its position within the framework of its Arab affiliation."

Concluding, Al-Ahmar notes Ba'th Party achievements and its links with liberation movements and socialist countries. He voices support for detente and world peace initiatives, but he adds that detente should be based on respecting people's rights and removing sources of aggression and injustice, especially in Palestine and South Africa.

At 1625 GMT, the live rally ends with the Ba'th Party anthem.

Paper Notes Israel's Rejection of 10 Points

JN0710120089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0545 GMT 7 Oct 89

[From the press review]

[Text] In a comment under the headline "The Israeli Rejection," the newspaper TISHRIN says: By rejecting the 10 points, the Israeli Government confirms once again that it is impossible to soften Israel's position or to moderate its rejection, arrogance, and hostility to a real, just, and comprehensive peace. With its maneuverings and other efforts, whether trying to peddle its deceptions about peace and spreading its allegations about negotiations, the Shamir government is only trying to force the Arabs to make more concessions and, consequently, pressuring them to abandon their inalienable national rights. The real aim is to suppress and liquidate the intifadah and end the reality of its existence through a stick-and-carrot policy and the mirage of false and glittering solutions.

But since all that glitters is not gold, the intifadah has answered all the enemy's fascist, oppressive methods and has also given a strong reply to these maneuverings. In so doing, it has confirmed that liberating the land, regaining lost rights, and ending the occupation can only come about by escalating the resistance and struggle and by rejecting plans of surrender and concessions.

Afghanistan

Senior Mujahidin Figure Killed in Fighting

LD0810185689 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 8, IRNA—According to fresh reports reaching here from Salang highway inside Afghanistan, the latest stepped up fighting between the mujahidin and the Kabul regime has claimed the life of a senior military commander, Commander Qari Kamaluddin.

Kamaluddin served as one of the three senior most operational commanders to Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, and had been specially deputed by the latter to command the mujahidin in the latest round of battles with the communist forces along the Salang highway.

The two other commanders identified as Gada and Panah are also believed to have died in the Salang battle raging at close range.

Kamaluddin had ten strike units plus five regional groups under his command, and had taken an active part in the formation of the supervisory council.

Forty communist troops also died in the battles, which are still going on, said the sources.

Rebels Capture Military Posts, Food Warehouse

BK0710141589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have captured 18 military posts in Samangan Province during the last 2 weeks. AFGHAN PRESS AGENCY says the mujahidin attacked the (Faqirabad) post in Qandahar city and destroyed it, killing eight Kabul regime soldiers including an officer. They also destroyed a military post in Farah Province.

According to a report, the mujahidin seized a military food warehouse in Qandahar city. They distributed the food among the residents of Arghandab and Panjwai Subdivisions.

Rebels Destroy 4 Posts Near Salang Highway

BK0810112489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin have destroyed four security posts of the Kabul regime troops between Charikar and Jabal os Saraj in Parvan Province in a bid to obtain control of the Salang highway. The Kabul troops fled away toward Pol-e Khomri, leaving behind several dead bodies. The mujahidin captured 30 Kabul regime troops and a sizable quantity of arms and ammunition during the attack. The arrested troops told the mujahidin that those killed in the fighting included two commanders of the Kabul regime troops.

State Security Buys Rockets From Opposition

LD0710063989 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 7Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 6, BAKHTAR—Organs of the Ministry of State Security bought two ground to air Sterilla-2 rockets from one of the armed opposition group in the Chakari area, Kabul Province recently. The price of the rockets were paid to the seller of the rockets on the spot.

Also, during the mopping up operations of the detachments of that organ carried out in the Bagrami District, Kabul Province 50 kilogramme of explosives, 50 booby-traps, 8 anti-personnel mines and 200 detonators planted in the surroundings of the district were discovered and seized.

A group of 50 armed men formerly active in the composition of Mohammad Nabi, in the Samangan Province abandoned armed activities and joined national reconciliation policy recently. The group was warmly welcomed by the incharges [as received] and residents of the area.

Reciprocally, Ghulam Nabi, head of the group on behalf of his men pledged to do his best for the ensurance of peace and security and realisation of the national reconciliation policy in their areas.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reported from the Nangarhar Province that a sizeable cash amount was distributed to the families 10,000 afs [afghanis] each, of the martyrs on Oct. 5, 1989.

In a function which was held there General Manokay Mangal, governor and chairman of the Defence Council of the province spoke in relation to the heroism and sacrifices shown by the residents of the province for the defence of independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the country.

Najibullah Greets Honecker on GDR Anniversary

LD0710062489 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 6, BAKHTAR—President Najibullah, has sent today a congratulatory message to Berlin addressed to Erich Honecker, general secretary of Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the State Council of that country on the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of the German Democratic Republic.

The message while expressing best wishes has further hoped that the relations existing between the two countries will further strengthen socio-political and cultural ties between the peoples and governments of the two countries in future.

Also, Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) has sent

to Berlin a congratulatory message addressed to Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR on that occasion.

Foreign Minister Interviewed on UN Meeting

LD0710061889 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 6, BAKHTAR—The climate of the 44th sessions of the UN General Assembly and speeches of the majority of the delegations of the UN member countries delivered, were in favour of the political solution of situation around Afghanistan and in support of the peaceful proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) to the assembly.

This was said by 'Abdul Wakil, foreign minister of the Republic of Afghanistan to local and foreign journalists at the Kabul International Airport here.

Pakistan, 'Abdul Wakil went on to say, then any time in the past in relation to the Afghan question in isolated and the US for the delivery of lethal armaments to the defeated extremists was criticised.

Speeches and proposals of the RA in the UN Assembly were extensively reflected and supported by the US mass media. After 8 years, it is for the first time that the US President in his speech in the UN General Assembly did not speak about Afghanistan in the negative, 'Abdul Wakil said.

The Afghan foreign minister who was heading the RA's delegation to the 44th sessions of the UN General Assembly in New York returned home today.

Earlier, the minister of foreign affairs of the RA on his way to New York during his stop over in the Federal Republic of Germany met with Willy Brandt, leader of Socialist International and handed him over message of President Najibullah. 'Abdul Wakil met Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of Social Democrat Party of the FRG as well.

The Afghan foreign minister on his way back home during his short stay in Moscow met Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest to both sides.

Golbuddin Hekmatyar Criticizes U.S. Policy

PM0610123189 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p 8

[Interview with Golbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, by Ahmad Zaydan in 'Ali Kheyl; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Zaydan] What prompted you to move from Pakistan into Afghanistan, and why did you choose the Al-Fath Barracks from among the party's other centers spread around Afghanistan?

[Hekmatyar] For many years I considered living with the mujahidin inside Afghanistan. I ordered a number of centers to be built for the party leadership to use inside the country. Al-Fath Barracks is one of them. Its advantage is that it is closer to the capital (Kabul) than the other centers, it controls supply routes, and over 80 percent of the mujahidin going in and out of Afghanistan pass through there. Furthermore, it is easy to contact the fronts from there. [passage omitted]

[Zaydan] There have been many reports in Peshawar about schemes and attempts to assassinate you. Is that the reason for your move into Afghanistan?

[Hekmatyar] Those attempts were in the past and numerous, and I did not leave Peshawar for fear of assassination. And had I feared murder, we would not have launched the holy war and confronted the two superpowers, the United States and Russia.

[Zaydan] It has been reported that some attempts took place a few days ago...!

[Hekmatyar] There are many attempts, the latest of which was the placing of a booby-trapped car along the route I took to the mujahidin camp in Peshawar. The mujahidin inside Afghanistan captured the culprits on their way back to Kabul.

[Zaydan] You recently accused the United States of conspiring against the holy war. You also said it is working to exclude the alliance of seven from power.

[Hekmatyar] The United States wants to bring its own Najibullah, that is Zahir Shah, to rule Afghanistan. They know, however, that the Islamic Party will confront its policy. It has, therefore, launched a propaganda campaign against the party with a view to weakening it in preparation for the implementation of its scheme. U.S. policy in Afghanistan is now working to weaken the Islamic parties and instigate what it terms fundamentalist parties against one another.

[Zaydan] What do you mean by the Islamic parties? Are all the seven-member alliance parties not Islamic?

[Hekmatyar] I do not consider that all of them are Islamic because they include parties which defend and work to implement that U.S. policy. At present, the campaign is confined to the Islamic Party alone, but the other Islamic parties will be next; that is, if the Americans succeed in weakening our party. The reason they singled out this party is because it is strong and confronts all the conspiracies designed to eliminate it from the arena of our holy war. [passage omitted]

[Zaydan] What are your views on present U.S. policy on providing aid directly to the field commanders?

[Hekmatyar] This is overt interference in our internal affairs. The Americans want to strengthen their influence in Afghanistan in order to use some of the commanders who respond to it and implement its objectives.

[Zaydan] Last week you met with the Pakistani prime minister. What results did the meeting produce?

[Hekmatyar] The meeting was fruitful. She emphasized to the mujahidin that the Pakistani Government would not accept the imposition of any figure on the Afghan people. For my part, I informed her of the the reasons for freezing further membership of the government. I told her it was conditional on holding elections within 6 months from the date the government was established, so that it would derive its legitimacy from an elected council, in addition to our move back into the country. The failure to implement what was agreed on contravenes the conditions set for the government's continuation. I wanted to probe the Pakistani position. I now consider the transitional government null and void because of our failure to hold elections and see no other solution to the Afghan problem than an elected government. Pakistan's backing for us in this regard is very important. [passage omitted]

Bangladesh

Ershad Departs for Manila, Stops Over in Bangkok

BK0910073089 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] President Ershad, now on his way to Manila on a 4-day state visit to the Philippines, made a brief stopover at Bangkok airport this morning. He was received at Bangkok airport by the Thai deputy prime minister, General Thianchai Sirisamphan.

In a dispatch from Bangkok a short while ago, our special representative says formal talks tomorrow between President Ershad and President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines are expected to cover bilateral relations and regional and international issues of common concern. The two countries are also expected to sign three agreements to strengthen bilateral cooperation in different fields. The agreements will be in economic and technical cooperation, merchant shipping, and cultural fields.

Police Raid University Campus, Recover Firearms

BK0710072489 Hong Kong AFP in English 0703 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 7 (AFP)—Police have raided the tense Rajshahi University campus in western Bangladesh and recovered several firearms, newspapers here said Saturday [7 October].

The raid by armed police accompanied by university authorities, came at about the same time as police in Dhaka launched a pre-dawn swoop Friday on Dhaka University arresting 29 student activists and seizing weapons.

Police carried out a room-by-room search in two dormitories at Rajshahi University and recovered pistols, revolvers and a considerable quantity of ammunition, the reports said.

There were no arrests, but Jatiyatabadi Chatar Dal (JCD), the student wing of Begum Khaleda Zia's opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party, condemned the raid saying it interfered with the university's autonomy.

The raid came almost two weeks after police and paramilitary troops raided six dormitories at Dhaka University seizing a large quantity of firearms and arresting 34 student activists, including a JCD leader. The campus is a JCD stronghold.

Students said the campus was still tense, but some scheduled exams were expected to be held.

At least 12 students have died and over 400 have been injured in campus violence over the last three months, sources said.

Riot police moved on to the Dhaka University campus Tuesday after rival students battled with guns and bombs ending some two weeks of calm, student sources said.

The clash between the JCD and the Bangladesh Chatra League (BCL) left at least five, including a journalist, with bullet wounds. BCL is the student wing of the dominant opposition Awami League of Sheikh Hasina Wajed.

The university has been the scene of bloody violence since August when a large number of schools were briefly closed to curb escalating lawlessness.

Also Saturday newspapers quoted retired Judge Abdur Rahman Chowdhury, known for his anti-government stand, as telling a seminar on campus violence Friday that peace could be restored if political parties "dismantled their student fronts and work for the greater interest of the nation."

India

Sweden Asked To Release Bofors Inquiry Report

BK0910160789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] The government has asked the Swedish Government to furnish a copy of the full report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau [SNAB]. This follows publication of the report in a national English daily today. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that the Swedish ambassador was called to the Ministry of External Affairs and requested to obtain the confirmation of his government to the authenticity of the secret portions of the report as published in the daily. The CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] and other investigating agencies have been asked to look into the contents of the material published and consider further action to be taken.

A press release of the Defense Ministry says that the Swedish Government initiated the inquiry by the SNAB in response to persistent requests made by the Government of India for a full inquiry into the allegations.

The Swedish radio broadcasts and other media reports had alleged that certain payments were made in connection with the Bofors [gun] contract. The report of the SNAB was received by the Government of India in June last year from the Swedish Government which said that certain portions have been withheld because of their laws. The entire text of the audit bureau report as received from the Swedish Government as well as the forwarding memorandum were released immediately on their receipt and the Government of India further requested the Swedish Government to make available the full particulars relating to payments mentioned in the report of the SNAB.

The press release adds that all previous statements made in this regard in Parliament or outside were based on the material available. It adds that the report published in the national daily extensively quotes from what are stated to be extracts from secret parts of the SNAB report, which the Swedish authorities had declined to make public.

The newspaper report makes unwarranted and tendentious allegations that the investigations were prejudiced. The release also says that the investigations have been conducted in accordance with law.

Gandhi Receives More Criticism Over Bofors Deal

BK1010072389 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 10 Oct 89

[By M.R. Narayan Swamy]

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 10 (AFP)—Opposition parties and the media have stepped up attacks on Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi following revelations that Indians did receive money from the Swedish arms firm Bofors in a controversial gun deal.

Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the opposition's "shadow premier," called Mr. Gandhi a "national shame" and "sly operator," while a senior party colleague, Madhu Dandavate, asked the 45-year-old premier to resign immediately.

"The present prime minister is a national shame," Mr. Pratap Singh, president of the centrist Janata Dal (People's Party), said Monday [9 October], hours after THE HINDU newspaper came out with the latest disclosures on the 1986 deal. "The prime minister has been lying all through," he added, referring to assertions by Mr. Gandhi that no Indians had taken commissions in the 1.3 billion dollar deal at the heart of India's biggest corruption scandal.

THE HINDU, respected for its sobriety, Tuesday quoted the Swedish national audit bureau as saying in a secret report that the "principal beneficiary" behind one of the three firms that were paid secretly via Swiss banks was "an Indian who has been an agent for Bofors for 10-15 years." It was a clear reference to Win Chadha, an Indian national who has already been interrogated by Indian Government agents, but cleared on the basis of his and Bofors' testimony.

THE HINDU, which has previously published other secret documents related to the case, said the audit bureau had learnt that commissions were paid to "those who took care of the Bofors FH 77 deal."

"THE HINDU documents blow up the none-too-believable assertion by official agencies and government spokesmen in Delhi that Mr. Win Chadha—and others—got their money for rendering regular services," THE TRIBUNE said Tuesday.

Added the influential TIMES OF INDIA: "At long last the disparate and often confusing pieces of the Bofors puzzle appear to be falling into place."

THE HINDU daily named Mr. Chadha's front company as Svenska Inc., with which the latter has previously denied links.

Said THE TIMES in an editorial: "The only honourable course left for the government now is to come clean, to track down the culprits, to make amends for past prevarications and to convince the nation that it will not allow greedy arms peddlers to take the Indian people for a ride."

Bofors allegedly paid up to 50 million dollars in commissions to win the 1.3 billion dollar contract for the supply of 400 FH-77 field howitzers and ammunition for the Indian Army in 1986. The scandal broke in April 1987 and has been kept alive by periodic exposures in Indian newspapers, seriously eroding Mr. Gandhi's prestige ahead of general elections due when his five-year term expires in December. Opposition leaders have charged Mr. Gandhi with mounting a cover-up.

Mr. Gandhi said in April 1987 that no commissions were paid by Bofors. In October the same year he said no middlemen were involved. And in June 1988, he admitted that commissions had been paid "but not to any Indian."

"No country can tolerate all this," Mr. Pratap Singh told reporters, in reference to the contradictory statements. "The prime minister is a national shame. Only one thing needs to be done now. Throw out Rajiv Gandhi."

Mr. Dandavate, in an open letter to Mr. Gandhi published Tuesday, asked the prime minister to resign "to uphold the high traditions of parliamentary democracy" following THE HINDU revelations.

The Indian Government said Monday that it had asked Sweden to confirm the authenticity of the documents

published by the English-language newspaper, but denied the daily's charge that New Delhi was prejudiced in the Bofors case.

"The report in THE HINDU makes unwarranted and tendentious allegations that the investigations were prejudiced," a Defence Ministry statement said. "The investigations have been conducted in accordance with the law."

The scandal has become a major issue in pre-election rallies called by opposition parties and has proved to be a genie that refuses to be bottled.

More than 100 opposition MP's [members of Parliament] resigned from parliament over the controversy in July this year after an official watchdog body attacked the government for mishandling the howitzer deal and for the use of middlemen.

The controversy took another twist last month when former Army chief Krishnaswamy Sundarji claimed that he had recommended cancellation of the 1986 contract but was overruled by the government.

Gandhi Congratulates Dalai Lama on Nobel Prize

BK0610131189 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has felicitated the Dalai Lama on the conferment of this year's Nobel Peace Prize on him. In a message to the Dalai Lama, Mr Gandhi said this is a tribute to the spiritual and moral values that he symbolizes.

Extending his good wishes, the prime minister said that it is disheartening when [as heard] these values are being steadily eroded in the quest for material wealth and economic dominance.

Tibetan Official Asks for Political Backing

BK0810151389 Hong Kong AFP in English 1436 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Dharamsala, India, Oct 8 (AFP)—The chief minister in the Tibetan government-in-exile Sunday called on India to extend political backing to the Tibetans' campaign for independence from China.

Juchen Thubten Namgyal, 56, the powerful home minister in the eight-member "Kashag" or the Tibetan government-in-exile, broke a long silence to urge India to change its stand on the Tibetan issue.

"Every nation has its policies and so has India," he said in this northern Indian hill town where the Dalai Lama's government is based. "But it should now give us political support."

He was asked what the Dalai Lama's government-in-exile, which is not recognised by any country, expected from the host country following the award of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize to the Tibetan spiritual leader.

India considers Tibet as an autonomous region of China, its northern neighbour with which it fought a brief border war in 1962, and has frowned upon Tibetans carrying on political activities on Indian soil.

Mr. Namgyal, the oldest member of the "Kashag", said in an interview that New Delhi had "accorded us all support like housing thousands of refugees, but has never extended political support." He added: "The Dalai Lama is convinced that India will give us the support now because of the increasing recognition of his peace efforts that has brought results." He did not elaborate.

Mr. Namgyal also asked China, which he described as the key player in the Tibetan issue, to look at the campaign for independence being carried on by the Dalai Lama "with a broadminded approach".

The Dalai Lama fled to India in 1959 following an abortive anti-Chinese uprising in his homeland. Besides the Dalai Lama, nearly 100,000 Tibetan exiles live in India.

Gandhi To Attend Commonwealth Meeting in Malaysia

BK0910150289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, will lead the Indian delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting [CHOGM] scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur from the 18th to 24th of this month. This was announced by an official spokesman in New Delhi today. The Indian delegation will comprise, among others, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the foreign secretary, Mr S.K. Singh. The Kuala Lumpur CHOGM meeting will discuss several issues, particularly the Namibian issue, human rights, control of drugs, and environmental issues. [passage omitted]

Pakistani Remarks Over Minorities Protested

BK0610145989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] India has protested to Pakistan against certain remarks made by the Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman about minorities in India.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that India's high commissioner in Islamabad has taken up the issue with the Pakistani Foreign Office.

The Pakistani high commissioner in New Delhi was summoned to the External Affairs Ministry to convey India's protest. The spokesman said that such references can only be considered as an interference in our internal affairs.

Curfew Imposed on Rajasthan Areas After Clashes

BK0710050089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] In Rajasthan, indefinite curfew was clamped at Shastri Nagar area on the outskirts of Jaipur and prohibitory orders under Section 144 CRPC [Criminal Procedure Code, which prohibs assembly of five or more people] were issued in the rest of the city following clashes between two groups. Police said about 25 persons, including police officials, were injured when some people indulged in stone pelting. Police have been deployed in large number in the city.

The state chief minister, Mr Shiv Charan Mathur, immediately called a meeting of senior officers and reviewed the situation. The situation in the town is under control.

Kashmir 'Peaceful'; Strike in Leh Clears Roads

BK0710161889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, a bundh [strike] was observed in Leh town today. The deputy inspector general of police, Kashmir range, told AIR [All India Radio] Srinagar correspondent that barring some incidents of stone pelting, the overall situation in the town was peaceful. Normal life was affected and transport was off the road.

The overall situation in the Kashmir valley remained peaceful. In Anantnag town, the day curfew was lifted today. No untoward incident had been reported from anywhere in the town.

Security Along Pakistan Border Strengthened

BK0810030289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The security all along the India-Pakistan border has been strengthened in Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, and Gujarat sectors. This has been done in view of the reports that terrorists and smugglers from across the border are changing their entry routes because of strict vigil on the border in Punjab. Disclosing this to newsmen in Jammu, the director general of the Border Security Force, Mr H.B. Bhatnagar, said a number of measures have been taken to contain terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab.

Punjab Border Force Kills 4 Pakistani 'Intruders'

BK0610155989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] Four Pak [Pakistani] intruders were killed by BSF [Border Security Forces] in Khemkaran sector in Amritsar District [of Punjab] this evening. They were killed when they were trying to cross over to India from across the border.

Air Staff Chief on Long-Term Development Plans

BK0810041089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal S.K. Mehra, has said that the Indian Air Force [IAF] has drawn long-term perspective plans based on regular studies on threat perceptions. He was talking to newsmen in New Delhi yesterday evening. He said that the Air Force will acquire more teeth with the induction of the ground-to-air [as heard] "Agni" missile and surface-to-surface "Prithvi" missile. The air chief said that the IAF is prepared to meet any kind of eventuality.

Pilot Only Casualty in Delhi Plane Crash

BK0810080489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] A ceremonial parade was held in New Delhi this morning to mark the 57th anniversary of the Indian Air Force [IAF]. The chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal S.K. Mehra, reviewed the parade and presented the Yudh Seva, Vayu Seva, and Vishist Seva medals to Air Force personnel. Grand flypast by jet aircraft including MiG-29, Mirage-2000, and Jaguars climaxed the celebrations.

A Defense Ministry spokesman said that a Mirage-2000 plane crashed during aerobatic display resulting in the death of the pilot. The accident occurred during the vertical maneuvering exercise. The president, Mr R. Venkataraman, expressed anguish over the crash. In a message to the chief of the Air Staff, he conveyed his condolences to the next of kin of the pilot who lost his life in the accident.

AIR [All India Radio] special correspondent reports that the pilot was giving excellent aerobatic display when in the last maneuver the aircraft crashed. The debris of the aircraft fell in the boundaries of the airfield. Our correspondent, quoting Defense Ministry sources, said that no civilian casualty had been reported. About 10 bystanders suffered minor injuries and were provided instant medical aid. One of the injured who got burn injuries is under medical care.

Iran

PRC's Qian Qichen Arrives for 2-Day Visit

Met by Velayati

LD0710063389 Tehran IRNA in English 0630 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen arrived here Friday night on a two-day official visit. He was welcomed at the airport by his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

This is Qian's second visit to Tehran since the victory of 1979 Islamic revolution taking place in response to Velayati's visit to Beijing.

Qian is to discuss issues of mutual interest and international developments with Iranian officials.

In an interview upon arrival, he said that in talks with Iranian officials he will work to further promote mutual understanding in Tehran-Beijing friendly relations.

Holds Talks With Velayati 7 Oct

LD0710131189 Tehran IRNA in English 1240 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati Saturday pledged his country's support for the full implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 seeking to make peace between Iran and Iraq.

Briefing Velayati on the recent developments in China, Qichen castigated certain foreign powers for their interference in the internal affairs of his country. The Chinese foreign minister reiterated that Beijing would never make a compromise over its foreign policy.

Velayati in reply voiced the Islamic Republic's support for the stability and steadfastness of China. Commenting on the Lebanese issue, Velayati regretted that the West, despite its pro-democracy claims, was violating democratic rules in favor of the ethnic system ruling in Lebanon. He also lashed out at the Iraqi regime for obstructing the enforcement of Resolution 598 and opposing the U.N. chief's proposals on a simultaneous troop withdrawal and POW's exchange.

The Chinese foreign minister arrived here yesterday on a two-day official visit at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart.

Visits Khomeyni Shrine

LD0710151189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who is in Tehran on a 2-day visit to hold talks with the Islamic Republic's officials, presented himself this morning at the immaculate shrine of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be favored by God, and paid his respects to the high status of the great leader of the Islamic revolution by laying wreaths at his tomb.

Discusses Relation With Karrubi

LD0710171689 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who arrived in Tehran last night for a series of talks with our country's officials, met today with Mr Karrubi, the Majlis speaker.

At this meeting, Mr Karrubi expressed his gratitude to the PRC Government and nation for their sincerity, faithfulness, and friendship toward Iran, particularly during the period in which the Unites States and other Western allies were putting pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran. He reiterated the need for mutual support among revolutionary countries throughout the world as a means of curtailing any interference by the foreign imperialists in these countries. He added: As a revolutionary country, we feel obliged to stand firmly alongside revolutionary nations. Mr Karrubi extended an invitation to the speaker of the PRC National People's Congress to visit our country and expressed the hope that the PRC's experiences will be employed in our country's postwar reconstruction.

For his part, the PRC foreign minister conveyed warm greeting from Wan Li, head of the PRC Standing Committee, to the Majlis speaker and remarked on the expansion of relations between the two countries as a result of the spirit of resistance, the maintenance of independence, and not surrendering to pressures. He praised the positive and firm positions adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran toward the implementation of Resolution 598, and its support for the secretary general's mediation in the implementation of that resolution. He added: As a permanent member of the Security Council, the PRC would like to fulfill its share toward establishing genuine peace in the region.

Received by Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD0810131389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen was received by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning. During the meeting, which was also attended by Foreign Minister Velayati and the ambassadors of the two countries, the Chinese foreign minister reported on his talks with Iranian officials. He called for the expansion and strengthening of mutual ties. He also endorsed Iran's positive stand regarding Resolution No 598 and Iran's cooperation with the UN secretary general. He stressed the importance of full implementation of Resolution 598.

According to a Central News Unit report, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized Iran's sincerity in accepting Resolution 598. He said: We feel that the Iraqi regime and the big powers are not serious about their commitments regarding implementation of the resolution. Not even the Security Council or the United Nations are making the necessary effort toward its implementation.

Saying that the no war, no peace situation is not in the interests of the people of the region or the world, he added: Because of our love of peace, the world has realized that despite poisonous propaganda against us, Iran is sincerely seeking peace, and that our mistrust of Iraq's sincerity regarding the establishment of peace is justified.

Referring to Western countries' interference in China's internal affairs, he said: Because of the present world conditions and the hegemonistic nature of the big

powers, it is necessary to strengthen nonaligned countries. China and Iran could play an important role in this.

Finally, stressing the importance of Sino-Iranian ties in all areas, he invited the Chinese president to visit Iran.

Meets With Habibi, Velayati

LD0810132189 Tehran IRNA in English 1308 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen today discussed mutual ties and international issues with First Vice-President Hasan Habibi. The Chinese foreign minister predicted that the 5th joint economic cooperation commission to be held in Tehran soon would pave the way for the two countries to further expand mutual ties.

On the U.N. Resoluton 598, Qian, lauding the Islamic Republic for its positive approach to the resolution and its cooperation with the U.N. chief, called for withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory.

Habibi said the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the People's Republic of China as an "old, intimate friend" and this he said was the basis for its ties with that country.

The vice president said that Iran was in the belief that every country should have the right to self-determination, concluding that the peoples of Palestine, Lebanon and Afghanistan should be able to decide on their own system of governments free from foreign meddlings.

He also said the Islamic Republic considers the withdrawal of Iraqi troops to internationally-recognized borders as an inseparable part of the resolution.

Warning that the continuation of no-war-no-peace situation in the region was dangerous, Habibi called on international organizations to force Iraq pull out its troops from Iranian territory.

The Chinese foreign minister is here on a two day official visit at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart.

Meanwhile, the 2nd round of talks between Qian and his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati was held here Sunday with most of talks being devoted to mutual ties and cooperation.

The Chinese foreign minister also announced that high ranking officials of his country would soon visit Tehran in response to earlier visits to Beijing of their Iranian counterparts.

Velayati termed the forthcoming joint economic cooperation commission as a good opportunity to expand commercial and trade ties between the two countries.

Holds Further Talks With Velayati

LD0810231289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] On Sunday, Foreign Minister Velayati held a second round of talks with PRC's Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. They discussed and reviewed relations between the two countries. According to the Central News Unit, in this meeting, the PRC foreign minister, while pointing to the positive impact of the trips taken by high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to China in maintaining relations between the two countries, said: Of course, we are in the process of responding to those trips, and high-ranking Chinese officials will be visiting Iran soon. In this meeting, he expressed the hope that relations between the two countries will expand and noted that there is a need for both countries to endeavor along this path. He also expressed the hope that mutual assistance would lead to a greater expansion of relations.

In reply, Velayati emphasized the importance of the two countries' relations, saying: We understand the roots of the developments taking place inside China. Pointing to the expansion of political and economic relations between the two countries and the formation of the fifth joint commission sessions which will soon be convened, he described these sessions as a suitable opportunity for the expansion of economic and commercial relations between the two countries. In this meeting, issues relating to Cambodia and the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from that country were discussed.

At the end of this meeting, the Chinese foreign minister expressed satisfaction with the outcome of his talks with officials of the Islamic Republic and said that these meetings, besides making the two countries familiar with each others' positions vis-a-vis international issues and bilateral relations, also helped to expand relations and contribute to resolving potential problems.

Concludes Visit, Departs 8 Oct

LD0810172189 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 8, IRNA—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen left here for beijing at the end of his two-day visit this afternoon. He was seen off at the airport by his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

"The visit was successful," he told reporters before departure, adding that the two countries decided to hold their joint economic commission meet here in November.

He elsewhere said China wants full implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 including the ceasefire, withdrawal of the forces to international borders and repatriation of the POW's.

Meanwhile Foreign Minister Velayati termed Qian's visit "constructive" and said the two countries have also

decided to expand their economic ties. "We are resolute to further exchange visits at various levels," he told reporters.

Referring to Tehran-Beijing historical ties Velayati said the two sides have had significant cooperation in international scenes, and will continue this trend in the future.

During his stay here, Qian also conferred with President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, First Vice-President Hassan Habibi, and Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi.

Velayati on 'Positive' Visit

LD0810232289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Excerpts] PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen left Tehran on Sunday afternoon following a 2-day visit which included meetings with the president, the speaker of the Majlis, and talks with the foreign minister of our country. [passage omitted]

At the departure ceremonies held for the PRC foreign minister, Mr Velayati was interviewed by our reporter, Dehqanpur:

[Begin Velayati recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Our assessment of the Chinese foreign minister's trip to Tehran is positive. Even during his short stay in Tehran, a number of meetings were held and issues discussed, and the topics covered and the instances on which both sides agreed were important and constructive. Bearing in mind that the sessions of the joint commission of the two countries will take place in Tehran in the near future, it can be said that in the fields of economics, industry, and commerce, and also in the political field, the two sides have decided to increase expansion and interaction in their relations. Relations between Iran and China are long-standing due to the fact that these two countries are among the large Asian countries and that good feelings exist between the two countries (?arising) from friendly relations. Iran and China's foreign policy positions are similar on many accounts. We have cooperated substantially in the international arena up to now, and we will continue to do so in the future. In various fields, neither country has any objections in principle to the expansion of relations and the reciprocal strengthening of relations between the two countries.

Both countries are determined to pursue the exchange of visits at various levels. We are waiting in expectation for the visits, in the not-so-distant future, of the esteemed PRC's high-ranking officials, in response to the trips taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials. All in all, we can conclude that the trip taken by his excellency [the Chinese foreign minister] to Iran took place at a particular point in time when both countries were in need of [words indistinct] in the field of mutual relations, regional issues, or in relation to international (?developments) and the cooperation which they have in different forms. [end recording]

Afghan Rebels Sign 'Memorandum of Understanding'

LD0910174789 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Council members of Afghanistan's eight-party Islamic alliance met Foreign Minister Velayati today. During this meeting, Mohaqqeq, spokesman for Afghanistan's eight-party islamic alliance, said: The preliminary memorandum of understanding between the head of the seven-party alliance's interim government and the council of the eight-party alliance has been signed.

During a meeting with Foreign minister Velayati today, Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, the head of the seven-party alliance's interim government, and Burhanuddin Rabbani, the leader of Jamiyat-e Eslami, expressed gratitude for the Islamic Republic's cooperation in creating unity among the mujahidin and various Afghan groups.

In the course of this meeting, Velayati referred to the draft copy of preliminary understanding between the eight-party alliance and Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, saying: This is a positive step toward reaching a final agreement between the eight-party alliance and the seven-party alliance's interim government. He added: We hope these efforts will lead to a decisive agreement by continuing the talks and by holding further meetings.

Petrochemical Dispute With Japanese Firm Resolved

LD0910121489 Tehran IRNA in English 1200 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 9, IRNA—Iran and Japan have reportedly reached an agreement on terminating their joint cooperation in the suspended Iran-Japan petrochemical project at Imam Khomeyni Port south of Iran.

The accord, reached after several rounds of intensive talks and extensive investigations by experts, was signed here between president of the Iranian National Petrochemical Industry Ahmad Rahgozar and president of the Japanese Mitsui and Co. Koichiro Ejiri, informed sources said here Sunday.

The Japanese side, the sources said, is to pay about one billion dollars to the Iranian side in compensation for its withdrawal from the project.

The new agreement, the analysts say, will pave the way for actively continuing the present bilateral cooperation and also for new Japanese investments in Iran in its post-war reconstruction era.

The content of the accord has not yet been disclosed but foreign sources, quoting the Mitsui president, reported that it was a preparatory agreement and that the final accord will be signed within 90 days.

While the project had been stalled, Iran probed the possiblity of cooperation with other foreign companies for completion of the project.

The petrochemical project was originally started in 1971 and was 85 percent complete when it came to a halt in 1979 due to the Iraqi imposed war.

More than four billion U.S. dollars (according to the present rate of yen against dollar) have been poured into the project by both sides most of which by Iran.

The giant project has been upgraded to a national plan and was ratified as a law by the Iranian parliament. Due to its significance, the execution of the project will be given top priority.

Compensation To Total $1 Billion

LD0910162489 Tehran IRNA in English 1523 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 9, IRNA—Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said here today that despite the scrapping of a petrochemical project between the Iranian national petrochemical industries and the Mitsui of Japan Iran is determined to give the project a re-start using foreign expertise.

An agreement between Iran and Mitusi Co. of Japan for the project which was halted in the wake of the Iraq-Iran war was finally scrapped Sunday, with Mitsui undertaking to pay almost one billion dollars in compensation to the Iranian company within three months.

The Iranian minister said the scrapping of the project had in fact removed a stumbling block on the industrial and trade relations between Iran and Japan.

During talks for scrapping the agreement the Iranian negotiators also agreed in principle to sell the equivalent of 300 million dollars worth of Iranian oil to Mitsui.

According to the Iranian minister the Mitsui of Japan has also undertaken to provide as much as 500 million dollars worth of oil industry products on long term credit terms to Iran.

Aqazedeh said that one unit of the petrochemical project on which the Iranian have been working since sometime ago will become operational in the spring of 1990.

Oil Minister Notes Accord on U.S. Company's Debt

LD0910171889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The oil minister has announced in an interview that a few days ago, following the verdict of international courts, the Iranian National Oil Company [INOC] reached an agreement with a U.S. oil company called Ashland. On the basis of the agreement, that company is obliged to pay $325 million, the total sum of its debts to the INOC. He added that the U.S. company Ashland purchased $282 million worth of oil from Iran during the early days of the Islamic revolution. The company refused to pay its debts. He added: The issue was pursued by Iran at the level of the international courts, and consequently on 6 October those courts voted for the payment of the debt plus $43 million interest to Iran. That money is presently credited to the account of the INOC.

Central Bank on Sale of Foreign Currency

LD0910185389 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 9, IRNA—The new government plan to sell foreign currency at preferential and competitive rates coupled with the increase in the amount of travellers' quota to U.S. dollars 5,000, virtually paralyzed the black market today.

The new plan announced by the Central Bank Sunday [8 October] has thrown the black market into confusion with none willing to deal with the string of illegal money-exchangers who haunt the capital's streets.

The Central Bank announcement that companies and foundations who have registered orders for foreign goods can receive their needed currency from the banks, was a double blow to the market.

Branches of Bank Tejarat (trade) started selling currency Monday [9 October] morning at the rate of 1,000 rials per each U.S. dlr, which is at least 270 rials less than the black market rate. However the government rate remains at 73.55 rials per U.S. dlr.

According to reports, the U.S. dlr dived below 1,000 rials in the black market today, and the same downward trend was recorded for other foreign currencies. Economic analysts believe that foreign currencies will plummet further on Iranian markets.

Qasem Feranlu, in charge of the international department of Bank Tejarat listed the branches selling foriegn currency and said the number would increase if needed. He said the rates will be announced by the bank on a daily basis.

Experts say if the rate even stays put at 1,000 rials per U.S. dlr the prices of imported goods would sharply decline. It was another shock for currency dealers who have reportedly lost millions of dollars in the recent years.

The first came following Iran's acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598 in July 1988, which more than halved the black market rates with many profiteers going broke. But the lack of progress at the peace talks by Iraq peace coupled with some internal and external issues caused the rate to rise again.

President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's remarks on the economic situation in the country are having results. Although it is too early the reduction has had a positive impact with people welcomed the government decision.

Shushtari To Explain Yazdi Meeting With Cooper

NC0610194589 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 2 Oct 89 pp 1, 5

[D. Montazeri report]

[Text] Tehran—The Majlis deputies are still waiting for the response of their request they made on last Wednesday for the explanation from Judiciary head Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi.

In the meantime, observers here believe that the Majlis has no authority to call an explanation from the Judiciary. They say there is no provision in the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Majlis to ask the explanation from the Judiciary.

A total of 110 members of the Majlis or Parliament on last Wednesday wrote a letter to Justice Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Esma'il Shushtari and asked the minister for an explanation about the meeting of a family member of spy Roger Cooper with Ayatollah Yazdi.

The sister-in-law of jailed Briton Roger Cooper had a meeting with the head of the Judiciary and presented a written application. Roger Cooper was arrested in 1985 in Tehran on charges of spying against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Lili Cooper, wife of Roger's brother Paul, met her brother-in-law in prison. The Ayatollah in his meeting with Lili denied the foreign media reports that Roger Cooper was sentenced to death.

The Majlis deputies objected that why Ayatollah Yazdi met with a family member of a spy and that why he wished that Roger Cooper may be freed as soon as possible. [sentence as published]

Ayatollah Yazdi gave certain details to Lili on the case of Roger Cooper and said that as a human being he wished that the imprisoned Britisher be released as soon as possible. Ayatollah Yazdi also said that the competent court's judgment can be altered or the sentence can be reduced only by the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Majlis can call the justice minister for an explanation and the minister is supposed to be present in the Majlis within 10 days. But, observers believe that the justice minister will not appear to explain the position of the head of Judiciary as there is no provision in the constitution for this particular issue. It is possible that Justice Minister Shushtari will come to the Majlis, but he will just explain the constitutional provisions of the case, observers believe.

According to the 1989 revised constitution, Article No 57 clearly says that the "ruling powers in the Islamic Republic are the Legislative, the Judiciary and the Executive branches which function under the supervision of the Velayat-e Amr [guardian of the cause of Muslims] and the leadership of the ummah.... These powers are independent of each other."

The constitution, however, makes the provision that in the event of at least one-third of members of the Islamic Consultative Assembly should interrogate the president in relation with his executive responsibilities he shall have to report to the Assembly within one month from the date the interrogation is requested, and shall offer adequate explanation to the Assembly, according to Article 89's Sub-section No 2.

Fuladi Briefs Yazdi on Imprisonment in UK

NC0710105289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] Mr Kurosh Fuladi, who was recently released after 10 years in British torture chambers, last evening met Ayatollah Yazdi, head of the Judiciary.

During the meeting which took place at his request, Mr Fuladi detailed the bestial, brutal, and inhuman treatment he received from British prison officials. He added: When I was released, the other prisoners in my cell cried and demanded that Roger Copper, the British spy, be treated by Iran as we were treated by Britain. However, I assured them that the humanitarian Islamic treatment of Roger Cooper would continue.

IRNA reported that during the meeting, Ayatollah Yazdi commiserated with Mr Fuladi and criticized world arrogance, especially the United States, for trampling on human rights and emphasized the independence of the judiciary in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Ayatollah Yazdi then alluded to the humanitarian Islamic treatment given to convicted prisoners in Iran and the compassionate Islamic teachings on justice toward criminals. He said: This does not mean that we release criminals or spies, but rather that criminals are human beings and we follow Islamic injunctions on their treatment.

Addressing Fuladi, Ayatollah Yazdi added: During your 10 years of resistance in British prisons, you displayed the values of Islam and you are an honorable place in history.

Fuladi noted that 60 inmates in his Islam cell had converted to Islam and that the heartrending demise of Imam Khomeyni, the hope of the world oppressed, had profundly affected them. He also requested a meeting with British spy Roger Cooper. Ayatollah Yazdi granted this request.

$18 Billion Allocated to 5-Year Plan

LD0810175789 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] Industries Minister Ni'mat-Zadeh announced: In order to expand industries and arrive at industrial self-sufficiency, the equivalent of $18 billion has been allocated in the 5-year plan for economic, social, and cultural expansion of the country for investment in the

industries sector of the country. Out of this amount, $8 billion of it is finalized and the remaining $10 billion is conditional [as heard] currency.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Changes in 5-Year Plan

LD0810184589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Excerpt] With the completion of the cabinet's work of examining the bill for the Islamic Republic's first 5-year plan for economic, social, and cultural expansion, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic, spoke about the plan and the changes made to it in his first all-media interview since the formation of the new government.

According to the Central News Unit, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani explained: The previous government examined this plan, but did not approve it. A copy of that same prepared text was given to the Majlis on which the Majlis is working. He added: However, the new ministers had views about the plan and discussions revealed that important points can be fitted into the plan.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed: The plan's skeleton and basics have not changed, but there have been fundamental changes to it. The president announced that the details of those changes will be declared later by ministers, the vice president, and the head of the budget and planning organization. He added: The changes consist of about 10 to 15 items, the important axes of which are: attention to production, emphasis on nonoil exports, and the presentation of important and new projects in the plan.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the fact that in these changes, greater stress had been given to gas, oil, petrochemicals, cement, mining, tires, and paper. He added: The monetary structure of the country is very important to us and in view of the differences in rates beween various foreign currencies, we decided to regulate it.

The president stressed: In the changes, greater attention has also been paid to decreasing the budget deficit and to the creation of employment.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: In administrative affairs, our policy concentrates on attracting skilled labor and maintaining the purchasing power of government employees. In connection with attention to industrial exports, the president stressed: We must have $9 billion of industrial exports in 5 years; part of that amount will be given to exports itself so that exports may increase. [sentence as heard] Thus, the foreign exchange foreseen for industries has increased in comparison with the previously drawn-up plan.

He explained: In the plan, we have greatly emphasized primary industries and we have permitted organizations to sign agreements, with the foreign resources of companies and governments [ba manabe'-e khareji-ye sherkatha va dolatha], for the implementation of a variety of projects in the cases where those projects can repay the foreign exchange they receive [as heard].

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Greater importance has also been given to agriculture than was the case in the previous plan. He continued: Regarding money and foreign exchange, a fundamental action has been foreseen and foreign exchange will be given to industries at favorable rates so that they may become active. The president added: If we inject $1 billion export foreign exchange at the rate of 60 tomans, that will mean that foreign exchange will be available to producers for production. And we will thereby be able to reduce the rials available in cash in the private sector. That takes place in circumstances in which we have it in mind to turn over some factories to the private sector. In that project, priority positions have been foreseen for workers and employees. The president added: The reconstruction of war-damaged areas, emphasis on gas as the main fuel, petrochemicals as a very effective source for fulfilling the needs of industries, and an increase in the foreign exchange credit level of transport industries to $2 billion are some of the other important changes to the 5-year plan.

In response to a Central News Unit reporter's question, Hashemi- Rafsanjani stressed: In the changes to the 5-year plan, the estimate for foreign currency expenditure has increased from $96 to $97 billion to $112 billion. He added: Part of that increase will be provided from an increase in the 5-year period industrial exports from $3 to $9 billion and another part from the income resulting from the expansion of tourism and also from the use of foreign resources [manabe'-e khareji] for the creation and expansion of production units as approved last year in the Majlis. [passage omitted]

Editorial on Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Friday Sermons

NC0610202589 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 2 Oct 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Keeping the Free Spirit of Islamic Revolution Alive"]

[Text] It was heartening to hear President Hashemi-Rafsanjani say during his Friday prayers sermon this time that the press should be alive and free. A free press is a healthy press and a muzzled press a sick one. The president was more than right in affirming that differences of opinion that may arise in the media within or even outside the country form an essential ingredient of a democracy. And where we ask is democracy more and better expressed than in Islam which enshrines the Divine values to which each and all of us must aspire.

Absolutism in any and every form, history has shown and lessons continue to demonstrate to us even today, is a malaise that should never be encouraged and thanks to the free spirit of our Islamic Revolution has not been encouraged. If it is, then we must count it a threat to the revolution and to progress and well-being of our people. What the press is duty bound to do is to present the facts

and its own viewpoints without the least partiality or bending to partisan interests.

Now moving from this to economic policies, as was explained by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, we believe that there is no doubt that economic policies of the past decade such as the system of production or distribution and supervision with direction and bureaucracy all of which was imposed by war have had deep negative effects on our economy after the revolution. The vast volume of cash flow of the private sector which is mainly a result of the concentrated economy of the past is a potential danger for the specific economic plans of the decade of reconstruction. Therefore it is the responsibility of various economic experts to clarify and present statistics from past realities and positive and negative results.

To any conscientious objectors who might jump up to say that this is once more a pandering to Western materialism and consumerism, let us say at once that we want progress but without however sacrificing our deepest values and keeping our Islamic Revolutionary ideals always at the forefront. For ten years now dealing with the world we have done it. Why should we not be able to carry on without dilution, or a giving away of our values? To fall back in this respect is to lose strength as a nation and to heap upon ourselves all the negative effects of economic bungling.

Naturally the vast system of the government services sector has been faced with disproportionate expansion without having had a positive role in increasing production. Thus with the increase in government expenditure in the services sector we have experienced reduced production, which is itself the real factor in increasing the government debt to the banking system and ultimately a huge volume of the cash flow is placed at the service of the private sector.

In this way we see a comprehensive economic plan with sincere assistance from the people as President Hashemi-Rafsanjani desired the country will march forward on the road of peace, progress and above all self-sufficiency.

Emami-Kashani's Sermon on 'Jurisprudence'

LD0610171189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Friday prayers sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani on 6 October at Tehran University—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] The first subject of this sermon concerns the Assembly for the Discernment of What Is Best, which has been graciously designated by the illustrious leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, may his blessings continue. [crowd chants support]

I shall spend a few minutes on this issue of the Assembly for the Discernment of What Is Best. Previously, the Council of Guardians has been strongly emphasizing the principles of jurisprudence and the Constitution. Of course, there were occasions in which something which was sanctioned by the Majlis would be passed on to the Council of Guardians, but would prove to be in need of expert review. The Majlis would say: We have reviewed the matter and this is what is expedient. The Council of Guardians, however, would find it incompatible with either the principles of jurisprudence or with the Constitution, and would therefore reject it.

There were also occasions, however, when the Council of Guardians would view something as self-evident and in need of great urgency, and would sanction it. There are a number of such cases in the Constitution; for example, the budget which should be dealt with annually. The Majlis would sanction it; it would then draft a supplementary to it or make a proposal such as: The budget should be fixed at the start of the year, and then specify from where the income and expenditures should come. Let us assume there would be expenditures and no income at the time, but that the income would be available in a year or two. The Council of Guardians would then say that this is incompatible with the Constitution, but it would respond to the Majlis by saying that in view of the war and the problems associated with it, the problem would be overlooked.

Similar cases would occur which it [the Council of Guardians] would sanction due to a lack of a remedy. However, in principle, the duty of the Council of Guardians is to see that the Majlis resolution which is passed on to them corresponds with the principles of jurisprudence and the Constitution. This involves the opinions of six jurisconsults who impart their views on jurisprudence, and 12 individuals, six of whom are jurisconsults and six legal experts who impart their views with regard to the Constitution, every word of which is studied with great diligence. The same method applies to the principles of jurisprudence. Naturally, however, situations could arise which need expert review, including their incompatibility with the principles of jurisprudence.

I should point out however, that concerning the principles of jurisprudence, just as his eminence the imam—may his sacred dust be sanctified—had incessantly and graciously mentioned and as the jurisconsults had also issued an order to the seminaries, the seminaries should take into account the time and the place when engaged in theological research [ejtehad].

Of course, the jurisconsults of the Council of Guardians were obliged to take the time and the place into account. The Friday prayers is not the proper occasion for specifying where for example, one should take the time and the existing conditions into account, and then engage in theological research while keeping in mind the existing conditions. This is, of course, separate from the government rules. It is different from the secondary rules. It is a totally different matter; that is, to take into account the

time and the existing conditions, and then impart views with regards to jurisprudence.

This was the duty of the Council of Guardians, to take steps in accordance with those principles. Of course, there were times when his eminence the imam—may his rank become loftier—would send a message ordering a specific matter to be dealt with in a specific manner, and because such an order had come from the supreme jurisconsult [reference to Khomeyni], the jurisconsults of the Council of the Guardians would obey the orders of the supreme jurisconsult. If, however, there were no orders from the imam, then the Council of Guardians would naturally make its decisions in accordance with the Constitution and the principles of jursiprudence, unless something was quite obvious and did not warrant expert review.

Thus, obstacles were encountered on some occasions. Consequently, his eminence the imam—may his soul be sanctified—formed the Assembly for the Discernment of What Is Best, so that when something proved to be impossible to resolve in accordance with the principles of jurisprudence, then it would be referred to the Assembly for the Discernment [of What Is Best].

I should mention something which concerns our friends; I do not wish to specify the occasions. The honorable jurisconsults of the Council of Guardians who would on occasion vote against something as incompatible with the principles of jurisprudence: In the morning during the Council of Guardians session they would reject a proposal on grounds of incompatibility with the principles of jurisprudence, and in the evening session of the Council for the Discernment of What Is Best, they would raise their hands in approval on the grounds that the occasion called for expediency. The Council of Guardians seeks expediency, and this place decides what is expedient.

Recently, when I attended the session of the council that reviewed the Constitution, there was much debate over giving the Council of Guardians the right of discerning what is expedient. This was proposed but did not win any votes. The Council of Guardians did not win votes for such expert reviewing [kar-shenasi]. The majority of the honorable members of the Council To Review the Constitution were of the same opinion; and this opinion is a good one: The policy of the Council of Guardians should not be based on expert review. It should be able to do so if it chooses, but it should not make it its policy or basis. Why? Because there should be a place in this system, an organization, which relies on the Constitution and the principles of jurisprudence. There should be such a place.

I am concerned with the present Majlis, but with Majlis in 50 or 100 years' time, when, God forbid, the people may have elected such representatives in the Majlis who may not heed what is permissible [halal] or what is forbidden [haram]. Then they may say that they have given their expert opinion, and then the Council of Guardians in turn also says that they have given their expert opinion, and in so doing they may sacrifice the Constitution and the principles of jurisprudence. No! There must be a place where one can firmly impart one's opinion on the basis of the principles of jurisprudence and the Constitution, even though it may not correspond with what is expedient. The expediency is decided elsewhere and that is in the Assembly for the Discernment of What Is Best. It is the Assembly for the Discernment of What Is Best which says, for example, [sentence incomplete as heard]

The Council of Guardians follows jurisprudential and constitutional principles, contrary to what people used to say about its following this or that faction. Even when the government brought bills to the Majlis, wishing to sell a number of manufacturing units to private individuals in exchange for what is owed them, the Council of Guardians said: No; this factory belongs to the government and should remain so. If it were in the services sector, it could be handed over to the private sector. [passage omitted]

I myself am a member of the Council of Guardians but I cannot really comment with accuracy on the views of the Council; the legal experts and the jurisconsults can comment. They can review the council's decisions over the past 10 years. Of course, sometimes decisions were made which were not in the interests of the system. However, the interests of the system were safeguarded through other channels: His eminence the imam solved the problem. He set up the Council for the Discernment of the Interests of the System. And now, the dear leader of the Islamic revolution [Khamene'i] has set up a similar body; he has appointed certain persons to look into various issues and determine whether or not they conform with the interests of the system. [passage omitted]

I hope that the country's problems, especially economic ones, will be quicly resolved. Of course, all the issues which do not come within the framework of legislation will naturally be resolved at the Council for the Discernment of the Interests.

I will now say a few words about Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Palestine. The Afghan problem has, thank God, made some progress. The great Afghan nation knows that the Islamic Republic has always supported them, has given them a great deal of assistance, and has done its best for the dear Muslim people of Afghanistan. They have, thank God, reached this particular stage. The Islamic Republic insists that there should be a popular government in Afghanistan which enjoys public support. Of course, having made all the self-sacrifices, the great Afghan nation must carry on in unity and solidarity. God willing, we hope they will achieve independence in Afghanistan and establish amicable relations with their neighbors, and that peace and security is established in the region.

Regarding Lebanon, the Islamic Republic has made great efforts on its behalf up to this point. The Muslims of Palestine and Lebanon have made many sacrifices. Now the arrogant powers are getting tired and are trying to find a way out. Of course, the majority of the people in Lebanon are Muslims and the al-Ta'if conference should follow the world's example. In all democratic societies, the wishes of the majority are fulfilled. To differentiate between this and that group is contrary to the spirit of liberalism and freedom, as practiced in the world and as stressed by the UN and the human rights [as heard].

The regions of government should be taken away from the Maronites in Lebanon. God willing, the people of Lebanon and Palestine will achieve independence and an Islamic government as soon as possible. [crowd chants] [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Nusrat Bhutto on Afghan Mujahidin-USSR Talks

BK1010070189 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Begum Nusrat Bhutto, the senior federal minister and leader of the Pakistani delegation at the UN General Assembly, has said that the Soviet Union has agreed to hold talks with Afghan mujahidin on a future interim government. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN reports that in a BBC interview, she said that the agreement was reached between Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze at a meeting on the 1st of (?this) month.

When asked whether the talks between the Soviet Union and the Afghan mujahidin will be on the formation of a future interim government, Begum Nusrat Bhutto replied affirmatively. She added that it would be better if the USSR and mujahidin hold direct negotiations.

President, Prime Minister Greet GDR Leaders

BK0710074789 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The president and the prime minister have felicitated the leaders of the German Democratic Republic on their national day today. In a message to the chairman of the council of state, Mr Erich Honecker, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan expressed the confidence that cordial relations between the two countries will be further strengthened.

Ms Benazir Bhutto in her message to the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr Willi Stoph, said we can look forward to further deepening our relations for the progress and prosperity of our two people.

Deputy Army Chief of Staff Departs for China

BK0810162089 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 8 Oct 89

[Text] The deputy chief of the Army staff, Lieutenant General Ahmad Kamal Khan, left Rawalpindi today for China on a 5-day visit.

Sind Leader Flees to Punjab After Arrest Order

BK1010033189 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] It was officially stated in Karachi late last night that Mr G.M. Syed [chief of the Jeay Sindh Tehrik movement and of the Sind National Alliance], escorted by a group of armed men, escaped from Kashmir into Punjab after a detention order under the Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance was served on him yesterday.

The detention of Mr G.M. Syed became necessary following desecration of the national flag by some of his supporters at Sukkur airport and a series of speeches made by him and his associates in preceding few days calling the very sovereignty of the country into question. The official statement said arms were also freely displayed and used at the meetings addressed by him at various places, threatening public order.

Pending inquiry into the circumstances of the escape, the government has placed the deputy commissioner and superintendent of police of Jacobabad under suspension for alleged negligence of duty.

Baluchistan Assembly Demands More Autonomy

BK0710111989 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The Baluchistan Assembly, at its session in Quetta this morning, unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon the federal government to grant more autonomy to the federating units. The resolution says that all subjects should be transferred to the provinces except defense, foreign affairs, currency and communications.

Scientist Envisions Nuclear Plant by Early 1990's

BK0710034589 Karachi DAWN in English 24 Sep 89 p 10

[Text] Lahore, Sept 23: Pakistan hopes to build a nuclear power plant by early 1990s and establish higher capacity plants by the turn of the century, Director, Pakistan Institue of Nuclear Science and Technology (PINSTECH) Dr Iqbal H. Qureshi, said on Saturday.

If the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) plans materialised, he said, nuclear power would meet about 20 per cent of the national power requirements by the year 2,000 against the existing rate of one to two per cent.

Dr Qureshi was delivering the inaugural address at a three-day National Executive Management Seminar on Industrial Radiotracer Applications at the Institute of Nuclear Medicines and Oncology (INMOL), jointly organised by the PAEC, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation and the Regional Cooperation Agreement (RCA).

Pakistan, he said, was ready to share its experience with member of the Regional Cooperation Agreement in a number of area of nuclear technology. Pakistan believed that nuclear energy should be used for peaceful purposes, specially in the fields of power generation, agriculture, medicine and industry so that people could reap the economic and technical benefits resulting from the research and development in these fields. He recalled the progress made by the PAEC in all these fields and the assistance it was rendering to the people.

The commission, Dr Qureshi said, was planning to set up an independent centre for the industrial applications of radiation technology for which he hoped the RCA countries would extend full cooperation. In addition, he added, the activities of Radiation and Isotope Applications Division at PINSTECH would be expanded and strengthened.

Although the Commission had the facilities and capability to help the industry in a number of fields, he pointed out, industrialists were not forthcoming, probably because they did not like to make investments unless fully confident of profits. The Commission, he said, was augmenting its efforts in this area to persuade the industrialists to adopt new technologies.

Dr. N.M. Butt, Associate Director, PINSTECH, offered all cooperation and guidance to the industry for incorporating radioisotope gadgets.

Regarding the problems in the way of adopting a new approach in this fields, he said, PINSTECH would also help solve these problems and remove obstacles. "Our scientists at PINSTECH have also performed a large number of field studies in hydrology involving the use of radiotracers, and it would be a pleasure to share our experience with the delegates", Dr Butt said.

The PINSTECH, he said, would also welcome requests from industries and departments for advice and help on the applications of radiotracer, non-destructive testing techniques and analytical measurements.

Dr John F. Easey, Principal Scientist, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, said his country stood for transfer of technology and full cooperation in the RCA. That, he added, would strengthen the body by bringing the people closer on equal footing.

Sri Lanka

Referendum on All-Party Interim Regime

BK0710084089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Text] The Sri Lankan Government and the major opposition parties in Parliament have agreed to consider holding a referendum to decide the change in the present system of executive presidency to a parliamentary form. According to an official communique issued in Colombo, the referendum will also decide about setting up an all-party interim government to restore peace and normalcy in the island nation.

The decision was arrived at a meeting in Colombo last night between President Premadasa and a delegation of the opposition parties. The decision will be subjected to further consultations and ratification of all the parties concerned.

Meanwhile, the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] has said that a permanent solution to the ethnic problem in the island nation can be achieved only through India's participation. A spokesman of the TULF told the AIR [All India Radio] correspondent in Jaffna that all Tamil groups should lay down their arms before initiating the talks.

Premadasa Says UNP Willing To Hold Referendum

BK0710145089 Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil 1230 GMT 7 Oct 89

[Report on a speech by President Premadasa to a meeting of the National Executive Committee of the United National Party, in Jayewardenepura—7 October]

[Excerpts] President R. Premadasa said today that the United National Party [UNP] is willing to hold a referendum to consider changes to the present Constitution. He added that it is essential to consult the public to decide on changes in the parliamentary system.

The president disclosed that a delegation from the Sri Lanka Freedom Party suggested to him yesterday amendments to the 1978 constitution, as it felt this was the main reason for the present crisis. President Premadasa said that the UNP always listens to the public opinion. The president was speaking at a meeting of the national executive committee of the UNP held at its headquarters [words indistinct] at Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte this morning.

Addressing the gathering, the president said that the ongoing consultations with the country's political parties under the all-party conference can be considered as a great victory for the people. He noted that it is another victory for the public that the militant group, the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam], has agreed to discuss with the government how to settle the disputes in the north and east. The president stressed that the Janatha

Vimukthi Peramuna [JVP] should also hold consultations with the government to find solutions to their problems. The president said that the JVP can appoint an accredited representative, if they are not willing to come forward for direct dialogue.

Mr Premadasa said that a large number of UNP supporters were killed during the emergency period. The government and security forces are engaged in all possible efforts to restore peace in the country. Several murderous groups are carrying out assassinations and crimes throughout the island either in the name of the JVP or posing as security forces. The president said it is very difficult to govern the country during a crisis period. He added that he would not let the people down because it is his responsibility to safeguard the citizens of Sri Lanka.

President Premadasa said that economic development in the country has deteriorated because of the unstable situation in the country. Several development plans have been devised to increase the growth in all sectors. But they could not be properly implemented. The government has spent a large amount of money to strengthen the security forces and purchase arms. 50,000 million rupees had been spent to buy arms after the year 1983. [passage omitted]

The president noted that various problems have been solved by the provincial council system and the Indo-Sri Lankan accord. He said that the Indian government had given its assurance that the Indian Peacekeeping Forces will be withdrawn by 31 December this year. [passage omitted]

Premadasa Praises Army for Reducing Violence

BK0910110289 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1015 GMT 9 Oct 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 9 (LANKAPUVATH)—President Ranasinghe Premadasa, who addressed the UNP [United National Party] national executive committee on the consensus emerging at the on-going all party conference, praised the armed services and police for their heroic role in reducing the level of violence and warned the people of "third or fourth forces" that are exploiting the situation and palming off their deeds on the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna], the army, and the police.

Speaking at Sri Kotha on Saturday [7 October], President Premadasa said that in the task of restoring peace there might be unintentional excesses. These acts should be viewed from the angle that the armed personnel are performing their duty of protecting the people at the risk of their lives and the lives of their families.

He added: "But we have found that there are also third or fourth forces operating in this situation. We know there are groups committing crimes in the name of the army or the police. We know there are groups who undertake contract murders for money, operating in the guise of JVPers or using the name of the army and the police. We can see that the acts and crimes of such groups are now being blamed on our armed forces."

President Premadasa, who explained in-depth the virtue of dialogue as opposed to arms, held up the current talks between the government and the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] as a model. Many had doubted the virtue of talking to the LTTE and some had even expressed doubts about its fruitfulness. But two benefits have emerged. One is that the invasions of the Sinhala villages in the north and the east have stopped and the killing of Sinhala people has ceased, the president said. Another achievement was the participation of all Tamil groups which once fought the Sri Lankan Government at the all party conference.

Describing the on-going all party conference as a victory for all he asked: "Why are we doing all this?" and answered: "It is to bring about peace, to eliminate violence and terror." "In what great fear are the people of our country living today? Many people do not sleep in their own homes at night. Some do not stay in their homes even during the day."

He said: "We are obliged to do everything possible to give relief to the people and create conditions for them to live without a sense of fear haunting them. This is the greatest need of the present time. We are prepared to make any sacrifice to achieve that objective. In my opinion, the restoration of peace and law and order in the country at this juncture would be a service equal in importance to regaining our freedom from the colonial rulers.

"I have no doubt that all of you will concede that the UNP is prepared to go to any length to render this service to the people. We are not obstinately hanging on to any set of policies."

President Premadasa said anybody could be president of a country during peacetime. Freeing the country from the terror prevailing today was a much more daunting task. It was also a noble service to the people.

"Therefore we of the UNP are prepared to join hands with anybody in this mission to deliver the country from the prevailing violence and terror. That is why we ask the JVP to come forward to resolve any problems they have and redress any grievances through discussion and dialogue", the president said.

Dealing with Friday's [6 October] discussions with the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] at the all party conference, President Premadasa said the SLFP suggested a referendum to decide whether the people accepted the presidential form of government. He said he accepted the suggestion and thanked the SLFP for making it.

He said, however, that before deciding on the system of government, peace and normalcy had to be restored. He

traced the history of the Tamil problem and said foreign forces had been called in because of it. He had dealt with that problem, although some accused him of being undiplomatic. India had agreed to pull out its forces by December 31. "We must create conditions which will enable the people of the north and the east to live in peace, without having to face the suffering that has prevailed there for so long. They must also have the opportunity of employment and to hold responsible positions in social organisations and even in the armed services and the police. It is our responsibility to give them their share of economic benefits, so that all people in this country may live in unity and brotherhood, like children of the same mother. We must not allow history to repeat itself."

The president said he would place the proposals that emerged at the all party conference before the plenary on Thursday [12 October] and decide on the future course of events. He announced that the aid consortium had granted the full quota of assistance this year too and advised the best use of these resources.

The UNP annual convention will be held on December 16, he announced.

600 Soldiers Leave Sri Lanka for Madras 6 Oct

BK0610132389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] A batch of about 600 PKF [Peacekeeping Force] personnel left Kankesanturai [in Sri Lanka] this afternoon for Madras as part of the deinduction process. The personnel, who are aboard the "Konkan Shakti" ship, are expected to arrive in Madras tomorrow.

44 Cease-Fire Violations During 14-Day Period

BK0610110089 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1012 GMT 6 Oct 89

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 06 (LANKAPUVATH)—The observer group monitoring the ceasefire in the north and east in terms of the Indo-Lanka joint communique of September 18 met President Premadasa yesterday to report on violations of the ceasefire, a news release from the presidential secretariat said.

The release said that it had been observed that there had been 44 violations of the ceasefire during the 14-day period under review. While many of these violations have been minor, a few have resulted in the loss of life. "Since the work of the ceasefire observer group would be facilitated by public information regarding violations of the ceasefire, the public are invited to send in any information they may have regarding such violations, or knowledge of intention to violate the ceasefire, to the nearest security post of the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] or the Sri Lanka Army," the release said.

The observer group comprising Sri Lanka's Army commander and the general officer commanding the IPKF will be reporting weekly on the ceasefire to President Premadasa, the release said.

General Kalkat Discusses Cease-Fire Violations

BK0710080889 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 6 Oct 89

[Text] In northeast Sri Lanka, 44 cease-fire violations have been reported since the 20th of last month when the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] stopped its operations there under the Indo-Sri Lankan joint communique. Lieutenant General A.S. Kalkat conveyed this to the observer group which met for the first time in Colombo yesterday. The group comprises the Sri Lankan Army commander and the GOC [General Officer Commanding] of the IPKF. The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] has been found to be responsible for as many as 34 of these violations. General Kalkat is understood to have pointed out that if these violations continue, the IPKF will take consequential action. It will also recommend further remedial action for the Sri Lankan president as stated in the 18 September communique.